MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 DECEMBER 1981

Golan Heights Issue

Israel On UN Vote, Reagan Remarks -- Reporting the UN Security Council's unanimous vote on a resolution deeming Israel's new Golan Heights Law null and void, Jerusalem radio noted that Israel's UN ambassador announced that his country would not accept the resolution. The radio also reported U.S. President Ronald Reagan's remarks on the issue at his 17 December press conference, citing the opinion of Jerusalem sources that his reaction was "relatively moderate" and that the United States will not take punitive steps against Israel. According to Jerusalem radio's English service, the general strike in Druze villages on the Golan Heights was "almost total." It added that the IDF presence was highly visible but that all roads were open and newsmen appeared to have unlimited access. Citing the Foreign Ministry spokesman, the Jerusalem POST reported that the Foreign Ministry is not yet sure whether the Golan Heights Law makes the area a part of the state of Israel.

Syrian Minister's Press Conference -- Monte Carlo radio reported that Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskander Ahmad held a press conference in Damascus during which he announced that Syria still abides by the provisions of the June 1974 agreement on the disengagement of forces on the Golan. However, he added that this does not mean that Syria will not take the "appropriate precautions to confront any eventuality" and that Syria still believes Israel is in violation both of UN resolution 338 and of the disengagement agreement. He went on to say that, if attacked, Syria would defend itself courageously and unhesitatingly. Asked about the possibility of Syria recognizing Israel, he replied that the question should be whether Israel recognizes the Palestinian people's cause and the Arab countries' right to recognized borders.

According to QNA, the minister observed that U.S. statements on the Israeli measure were "satisfactory," but that the U.S. position "in general" is not. Monitored Syrian sources have not yet been observed to report on the press conference.

Meanwhile, Damascus radio reported that Syria has called for an emergency meeting of the Arab foreign ministers to discuss the measures to be taken in view of Israel's new Golan Heights Law.

Egyptian Cabinet statement -- A special Cabinet session concluded with a statement, broadcast by Cairo radio, condemning the Israeli law on the Golan Heights as a blatant contravention of UN Security Council Resolution 242 and the framework for peace signed at Camp David on 17 September 1978 and a contradiction of the concept of peace outlined in the Camp David agreements. It said Egypt totally rejects the Israeli move and demands Israel refrain from taking any measure that contravenes international law, the UN resolutions and its agreements with Egypt.

During a press conference after the Cabinet session, reported by MENA, First Deputy Prime Minister Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din said the Israeli measure will not have any effect on the withdrawal from the Sinai and Egypt is continuing the autonomy talks and the normalization of relations.

Saudi Press Comment -- Terming the Israeli measure on the Golan "piracy," 'UKAZ appealed for Arab unity to confront the Israeli challenge, SPA reported. It added that AL-YAWM and AL-MADINAH also condemned the Israeli move.

Israel

The Government Press Office issued the text of a speech by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon to the 14 December conference of the Institute for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University, read on his behalf by Maj Gen Aharon Yariv, in which he listed Arab confrontation and Soviet expansion as the main challenges to Israeli security during the 1980's

He observed that Israel's sphere of security interest must be expanded to include Pakistan, Turkey, Iran, the Persian Gulf region and Africa, especially north and central Africa. He stressed that Israel must develop and produce weapons systems that will allow it to maintain a "permanent qualitative advantage" over the Arab confrontation states, ensuring its independent ability to deal with Arab military threats while striving to establish strategic cooperation ties with the United States.

PLO

'Arafat in Romania -- The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported that PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat held two rounds of talks in Bucharest with Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu. 'Arafat subsequently left Romania, according to Bucharest radio. MENA reported that an envoy of President Ceausescu would arrive in Cairo on 18 December, bearing a message for President Husni Mubarak.

Salah Khalaf Speech -- The Voice of Palestine broadcast a speech by Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf to a 16 December Beirut rally in which he reaffirmed that the PLO will never approve of any Middle East peace plan that involves negotiations with or recognition of Israel. Claiming that those who aborted the Fes summit conference were those who adjourned or postponed it, he accused them of hoping to invite Egyptian President Mubarak to the next summit session at Fes. Criticizing Algeria and Saudi Arabia for hosting the "Zionists" French president, Francois Mitterrand, Khalaf said they should cancel their new economic agreements with France.

Al-Wazir Interview -- In an interview with the Beirut weekly MONDAY MORNING, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir revealed that during his recent visit to Hungary, he reached an agreement providing for Hungarian military support for the PLO, "in terms of both arms supplies and military training." Al-Wazir also indicated that the GDR has agreed to provide military support for the PLO and mentioned that during his visit to the GDR, the PLO delegation held discussions with East German personnel about the latest developments in antiaircraft missiles.

Libya

DPA reported that Libya's representative in Bonn stressed that U.S. citizens and other foreigners in Libya have nothing to fear. Speaking to newsmen, he noted that 67 U.S. citizens have so far left Libya in accordance with the U.S. administration's request and said Kuwait has offered technological assistance for Libya's oil industry.

Iraq

Embassy Bombing -- PARS reported that the Iraqi opposition group Ad-Da'wah has claimed responsibility for the explosion at Iraq's Beirut embassy.

Oil Pumping Resumed -- Citing a Syrian official source, the Amman paper AD-DUSTUR said Iraq has resumed pumping oil through Syria to the Tripoli refinery in northern Lebanon.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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VOP RADIO CRITICIZES REAGAN STATEMENTS ON GOLAN

NC181302 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Dec 81

[From "With the Events" program]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan has stated that he was surprised by the Israeli decision to annex the Syrian Arab Golan Heights to the Israeli entity. He considered the decision harmful to the peace process, which is based on [Security Council] Resolutions 242 and 338. When he was asked his stand on the question of Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights, the surprised President declined to give a direct answer, saying this should be left to the negotiations, which are based on Resolutions 242 and 338. Despite his claim that he was surprised and dissatisfied with the Israeli decision, he reminded his audience of his full commitment to support Israel, saying that when Israel was waging the 1967 war, he was celebrating in Hollywood in support of Israel. It is no secret that this utterance by Reagan emphasizes not only the special relationship he has with Israel but it also his commitment to the Israeli stands vis-a-vis the lands occupied in 1967. Reagan claims he considers these lands on the basis of Resolutions 242 and 338.

There is no doubt the biggest lie in Reagan's statement is that he was surprised by the Israeli decision, as if such a decision were a local Israeli affair, such as the dismissal of an official and his replacement, which does not concern the United States. The best proof that the U.S. President has lied about this specific point is that the special relationship in its new garment -- the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance agreement -- leaves no room for the Israelis to act in a somewhat independent way, enabling them to adopt a grave decision such as the annexation of the Golan.

It might be asked: Why does Reagan claim he was surprised and why does he denounce the decision? The answer to this question lies, perhaps, in the basic U.S. stands on issues connected with the Arab states. The United States dissociates itself from the provocative Israeli stands and condemns them at the time they are adopted without committing itself to a practical stand that would lead to an Israeli retreat. This has taken place several times. Indeed, it is the distinguishing character of U.S. statements, which are intended to deceive the Arabs and implement the Israeli resolutions under the umbrella of the American word "victory."

Anyone who rejects the Israeli decision on the annexation of the Golan does not boastfully say that when Israel was occupying the Golan in 1967 he was celebrating its victories with the Hollywood stars. The deceptive U.S. stand is no longer in need of more proof to expose it and explain its aims. What finally matters is the Arab stand. Will the Arabs be deceived by U.S. tricks and will the Arab stand continue to oscillate in the circle of the reaction which cannot confront such a grave decision, which will be followed by graver decisions such as the annexation of Jerusalem and perhaps graver and graver decisions?

This is the question to which we believe it will not be possible to find a convincing answer except on the battlefield; that is, the field of the military option.

RALLY MARKS PALESTINIAN RED CRESCENT ANNIVERSARY

In'am Ra'd Speech

NC171644 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1133 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Speech by In'am Ra'd, leader of the Lebanese Nationalist Movememt, at a rally held on 16 December in Beirut to mark the 14th anniversary of the Palestinian Red Crescent -- recorded]

[Excerpts] The Red Crescent is the other facet of the Fedayeen movement. It is the arm of the revolution which tries to recover from the front and from the battlefield wounded who have dedicated themselves to martyrdom. The Red Crescent saves some of these people so they can resume their march in the procession of martyrdom for the sake of the martyred people and the martyred land. [applause]

Now, what is happening on the Palestinian scene? It has become clear, and through new facts added to the already established facts, that there is no room for a settlement with the imperialist-racist-Zionist settlement. It is now clear that these settlers cannot even partially recognize some of our people's rights to our land. In its quintessence, their settlement is not amenable to coexistence nor to a solution. It is a cancerous entity. Let our friends in the world know that just as Nazism was removed to make way for peace, Zionism must be removed so that peace can be achieved. [applause] Let our friends in the world know that just as Rhodesia fell so Zimbabwe could emerge, the Palestinian people have heeded the lesson of southern Africa deep in their hearts: Down with Israel so that Palestine can emerge. [applause]

This Zionist entity is swallowing up the West Bank. It wants to turn Jerusalem into a Zionist city, and it wants to turn the Gaza sector into a Zionist land. It is not contended with these actions. It has expanded and swallowed up the border strip of southern Lebanon and it is threatening a new invasion of that area. It has set up a Zionist-style entity affiliated with it in the very heart of Lebanon. Israel recently announced the annexation of the Golan. At the same time, it is preparing to return Sinai [to Egypt]. However, the difference is not the return of the land, but the exorbitant price this entity is imposing for the sake of a handful of our soil to be returned under the aegis of hegemony and submissiveness.

As the Egyptian National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party said in a recent statement, the equation is not formed by recovering the land. It is formed by the price which we are asked to pay to recover some land. [applause] The price is the normalization of relations. The price is capitulation, Camp David, autonomy and the liquidation of the cause under the slogan of a settlement and peace.

It is not the Zionist entity alone that lives in our land and sends our people into destitution. Let us always remember that the basic enemy is American imperialism. Recently, the young brother and struggler Abu 'Ayn [applause] was extradited over the objections of the Arab states -- and some of them are the friends of the United States. We are asking you, the friends of the United States: How can you expect those who disfavor all the Arabs with only one Palestinian to favor you with Palestine? [applause]

There is no basis for a settlement with imperialism, which wants to subjugate us and which wants to enable our enemy to overpower us. Consequently, there is only one path for us -- a path of steadfastness and confrontation, a path of protracted combat and a path of struggle against this settlement and against its imperialist ally.

We know the plans which have been brought by Draper and by Philip Habib and which are aimed at liquidating the Palestinian resistance, at ousting the Arab Deterrent Forces and at imposing on Lebanon a fascist hegemony under the plans forwarded by the United States and by Zionism through their agents.

Rest fully assured that this steadfastness will never be shaken, neither by the Israeli war machine nor through all the imperialist backing. This is the steadfastness of the people who refuse to be whipped back into subservience to U.S. imperialism. [applause] We will never permit Lebanon to revert to, or be reconverted into, Hong Kong and Tanta [Egyptian city in the Nile Delta]. Lebanon will continue to follow the path of Vietnam and of Palestine. Thank you. [applause]

Salah Khalaf Address

NC171827 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1149 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Speech by Fatah Central Committee member Abu Iyad, Salah Khalaf, at a rally held on 16 December in Beirut to mark the 14th anniversary of the Palestinian Red Crescent -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Brother struggler In'am Ra'd, representative of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, brother members of the Palestinian Revolution Command, friends, brothers and sisters: On the anniversary of the Palestinian Red Crescent and at the festival of the Palestinian Red Crescent we meet with the good people who extend their noble hands to treat and dress wounds. All these people extend a hand to serve this great image of this revolution -- an image of a human being standing with his brother struggler in all fields.

What has happened? We all know that this Palestinian revolution has dealt with what is termed, or called, peace in the area with full flexibility and reason. Throughout its history, the Palestinian leadership had never before unanimously approved of a Palestinian state as a phased solution, on the condition that this approval would not be given at the expense of historic rights and under the proviso that the price of this part [presumably of Palestine] would not be the recognition of our Zionist enemy in our land in Palestine.

Some Arab newspapers, be they Egyptian or Paris-based, are now writing articles entitled: "To where, Oh Palestinians?" In these articles, the writers say: We are weary of giving you money and backing. These many years are enough for us. You reject all the plans that are offered. You reject all initiatives. You reject all solutions. What do you want?

Those who say these things do not speak of an alternative. They view the alternative as our capitulation. However, and on behalf of the Palestinian revolution, we say to all these people who are trying to disgrace us because they are paying us money: We pledge to you something dearer than money: it is the cherished blood shed by our young men and by the young men of the nationalist movement. [applause] This blood is more cherished than all their time and all their money. To us, this blood is what we cherish most in this world. We will never surrender. We will never fall on our knees because of their pressure, no matter what they do and regardless of how hard they try.

We did not abort the Fes conference. Those who aborted it were those who adjourned or postponed the conference. Those who aborted the conference are those who want to arrange another conference, also to be held in Fes; that is, in Morocco, so that Husni Mubarak will come dignified, carrying on his shoulders the Camp David agreement, the treason perpetrated by As-Sadat and all the ills of As-Sadat's regime and era.

We know these things. However, we tell those who are formulating such plans that they will never be able to tell us to be patient with Husni Mubarak. They will also never be able to tell us: Husni Mubarak is a new face and he might introduce domestic reforms in Egypt. There are documents which prove that the United States asked As-Sadat before his departure (?from the scene) to amend his relations at home, to ban corruption and to try as much as possible to revive democratic life. These are U.S. demands. Therefore, we absolutely do not want to be deceived by the claim that Husni Mubarak should be given time.

The only time that should be given is for Husni Mubarak to make a fresh start. However, it seems that he is determined to pursue the way charted by As-Sadat. We have said it frequently: It is true Egypt is concerned. However, Egypt is that of 'Abd an-Nasir and that of patriotism, not that of any traitor [remainder of sentence drowned in applause].

We, Palestinians, as we have said, have accepted an independent Palestinian state on the soil of Palestine. However, our acceptance is not subject to any conditions. This is the only phased solution to which we agree. I reaffirm that we will never approve of a solution which involves negotiations with, or a recognition of, Israel. We will consent to no initiative including the recognition of Israel.

Now we come to the annexation of the Golan. I believe Jerusalem is cherished by all the Arabs. The Israelis annexed Jerusalem recently -- and the Jerusalem was an orphan. Even when things went so far as its annexation, Jerusalem was an orphan. They did not understand things, they said a few words -- and we cautioned the Arabs, saying that the annexation of Jerusalem would signify the annexation of (?other parts of the Arab homeland).

Now, the Arabs are silent and motionless. The Arabs could care less about the whole world. These are not Arabs, these rulers who do not know how to face the United States with even a single word.

Ziyad Abu 'Ayn is a young Palestinian. All the Arab states put together and their ambassadors accredited to the United States were unable to prevent the U.S. administration from extraditing him. Just as they had handed the whole land of Palestine and the whole people of Palestine over to Israel, they handed over Ziyad Abu al-'Ayn. He is one of our patriotic young men who lived in a U.S. cell. Now, he has moved from a U.S. cell to yet another U.S. cell. The reason is that Israel is nothing but a U.S. base in the area. This heroic Palestinian is guilty just because he rose up in arms with his revolution so he could recover Palestine. Has any Arab moved? What have the Arabs done? Have they cut off even one barrel of oil to the United States? Have they reduced production? Or are they at OPEC quarreling about how to make prices cheaper to enable U.S. and European industries to continue operating, or should I say U.S. and foreign industries?

Where is Europe's voice? Where is the European initiative of which we have often spoken? Where is this initiative? We said it is an illusion. There is no dividing line between the United States and Europe. Some persons saw an illusory European initiative. Cheysson went to our occupied territory and there he exposed everything called a European initiative. He exposed it in all insolence. He announced that the French Army and the French defense force will support Israel if it is attacked. Indeed, this is a big joke! The great France of De Gualle's era at least took an honorable and independent stand vis-a-vis U.S. imperialism.

However, socialist Mitterrand, who has tarnished socialism, has come to expose himself as a basic Zionist working in favor of Israel and in favor of world Zionism. Regrettably, and prior to visiting Israel, Mitterrand has begun to make successive concessions to Israel. What will he do when he is in our occupied land? What will Mitterrand offer? I believe he will offer what remains of France's independence in his era. The reason is that this Mitterrand has indeed visited two Arab countries and has concluded agreements with htem. These are Saudi Arabia and Algeria. During these visits, Mitterrand was accorded hospitality. He also signed contracts and took them home with him. He also inherited from his colleague Giscard d'Estaing other contracts. Since these visits, have these regimes which hav given these contracts moved to tell him: Stop you have reached your limit. Have we cancelled a contract for only one factory or for factories -- contracts signed by Giscard and then Mitterrand? However, some Arab officials have no soul, they are shameless. All these agreements should be cancelled.

It is imperative that the French people know that when their policy is under the thumbs of U.S. imperialism and Zionism, it is ineluctable for the Arabs to boycott them in all domains and fields. The French people should also know that the socialism their leadership claims is based on injustice, falsehood and aggressiveness. We know which are the socialist states. We know our friends in the Soviet Union and in the other socialist states. We know how a friend stands by his friend. We know these allies. We believe them when they tell us: We are socialists. Their socialism signifies that they stretch their hands out to all the liberation movements in the Arab homeland and throughout the world.

It is true that the United States is a superpower. However we Palestinian fighters, we Lebanese fighters and we Arab fighters within this Palestinian revolution can all restore to this revolution and to this existence their gains. [applause]

ABU MAYZAR SEES NO RESOLUTION TO MIDEAST DISPUTE

NC180901 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] In Damascus, Brother 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, the PLO official spokesman, has said that the Zionist entity's practices in Jerusalem, the Golan and Southern Lebenon in particular, prove that it is necessary to abandon the illusions of the possibility of resolving the Arab-Zionist dispute and of coexistence with this entity.

He said the Zionist enemy's ambition in imposing its hegemony prove the necessity of following the logic of continuous confrontation. He pointed out that Israel's decision to annex the Golan followed the signing of the strategic cooperation agreement with Washington.

Brother Abu Mayzar expressed the belief that this decision proves the hostile and expansionist nature of the Zionist entity. It also proves that this entity has entered a new phase -- the phase of doubling pressure on the forces of steadfastness and confrontation which oppose the imperialist and Zionist plans.

He concluded his statement by saying that the Palestinian revolution, which supports Syria, urges the Arab nation to double its steadfastness and confrontation and to attain solidarity on the basis of firm resistance to the Zionist enemy and the forces which support it and encourage its expansion and aggression.

MONDAY MORNING INTERVIEWS PLO'S AL-WAZIR

NC171300 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 7-13 Dec 81 pp 14-23

[Interview granted to Claude Khoury by Deputy Commander of the Palestinian revolution forces Abu Jihad -- Khalil al-Wazir -- date and place not given]

[Text] Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander of the forces of the Palestinian revolution, last week revealed what he said were the objectives of U.S. special envoy Philip Habib in his current tour of the Middle East, condemning the Habib mission as part of a continuing American-Israeli conspiracy against the Palestinians.

In an interview with MONDAY MORNING, Abu Jihad said that Habib, who last week held talks with Lebanese, Syrian, Jordanian and Israeli officials and was expected to go to Saudi Arabia before returning to Beirut for a meeting with President Ilyas Sarkis, was trying to implement a south Lebanon plan thought up by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig.

The plan, which Haig presented to West European foreign ministers at the North-South conference in Cancun, Mexico, last October, had three major aims, Abu Jihad said.

These were: Increasing the size of the international force in the south and turning it into a deterrent force; enlarging the force's area of operations to cover territory where Palestinian and leftist Lebanese forces were now in control; and stopping the arms flow to the Palestinian and leftist Lebanese forces.

These measures, along with the withdrawal of the Syrian surface-to-air missiles from Lebanon's Al-Biq'a Valley, were Habib's real objectives, and everything that was being said about consolidating the south Lebanon cease-fire was nothing but "camouflage," Abu Jihad said.

The cease-fire, arranged by Habib in cooperation with Saudi Arabia and the UN has been holding since July 24, and Abu Jihad reaffirmed the PLO's commitment to it and to the pledge the Palestinian leadership had made to Lebanon not to launch attacks on Israel across the Lebanese border.

Noting that hostilities in the south had always been started by Israel and that the PLO had always acted in self-defense, Abu Jihad said: "In view of this, we know what Habib is carrying with him -- nothing but more conspiracies, aggression and strategic coordination with the Zionist enemy against our Palestinian people, our people in the south and our Arab nation."

Habib, he said, was out to keep the promise Washington had made Tel Aviv -- "that the problem would be settled politically in a manner that achieves (Israel's) goals."

The Palestinian leader, who recently returned from Hungary and East Germany, where he held talks with top officials on the possibility of arms supplies for the PLO, predicted an Israeli attack on south Lebanon in the near future.

The attack, he said, would be supported by Washington and aimed at taking advantage of the fragmentation of the Arab world after the Arab summit in Fes last month to deal the PLO a heavy blow.

Abu Jihad criticized the Arabs who were elated by the outcome of the Fes summit and those who were "weeping" over it.

The summit was postponed midway through its first session because of disagreement over an eight-point peace plan presented by Saudi Arabia.

Abu Jihad called on the Arabs to snap out of the shock of the summit and take swift, united action aimed at continuing Arab opposition to the Camp David process and increasing Arab support of the Palestinian struggle in the occupied territories and on the international level.

Denying reports in "hostile media" about Palestinian-Syrian and inter-Palestinian splits after the Fes summit, he said it was now the task of the PLO and Damascus to "breathe life into the Arab body, which has been numbed by the results of the Fes summit."

He added: "Let any action we take and any dialogue we engage in spring first and foremost from the duty to support the Arab right in Palestine, the struggle of the Palestinian people and the entire Arab nation for their inalienable, legitimate right to a Palestinian homeland, and their right to self-determination and independent statehood.... All that, before we talk about what positions we can offer to prove that we are moderate and reasonable."

To underscore Palestinian unity after the Fes summit, Abu Jihad said, the PLO's Executive Committe held a meeting and arrived at four important decisions, including the creation of an executive council for the occupied territories and a military committee for the occupied territories. Those new bodies, made up of representatives of all member organizations of the PLO, would now do everything possible to escalate the struggle against the Israeli occupation authorities in the West Bank and Gaza.

Presenting a capsule report about what was happening in those territories since Israel's attempt to launch a civilian occupation authority, Abu Jihad said: "Our people there are struggling on with an iron will, confident that victory will be theirs no matter what the sacrifices that have to be made on the way."

Abu Jihad, a member of the Central Committee of the major Palestinian organization, Fatah, dismissed the mission of Ambassador Philip Habib as yet another American attempt to undermine the PLO.

This time, he said, the attempt was taking the form of the "political attack" launched by Secretary Haig in Cancun, where he explained to EEC foreign ministers the broadlines of a plan to consolidate the Palestinian-Israeli cease-fire in south Lebanon.

"That plan," Abu Jihad said, "included the following points:

"First, increasing the size of the international forces in south Lebanon and turning them into international deterrent forces.

"Second, expanding those forces' area of deployment to cover regions where the joint (Palestinian-leftist Lebanese) forces are now present, the object being to shrink the areas of joint force presence.

"Third, preventing the arrival of arms supplies for the Palestinian forces and the joint forces, with a view to containing and besieging the Palestinian revolution."

He added: "Philip Habib is here today to speed up the implementation of these measures, to keep the promise which (Israeli Prime Minister Menahem) Begin said was made to him by Habib and the United States that the problem would be settled politically in a manner that achieves his goals."

Habib's mission also included "what U.S. and Israeli sources have been talking about -- resuming discussions on the issue of the Syrian missiles in the Al-Biq'a" Abu Jihad said, adding: "We belive that Habib's mission is a continuation of the plan to attack the Palestinian revolution and the joint forces, and all that has been announced about Habib's aim being the consolidation of the cease-fire is nothing but deception and camouflage."

Where the cease-fire was concerned, Abu Jihad said, the PLO wanted to make the following points clear to all concerned:

It was Israel which had always been on the offensive in the south, launching continuous land, air and sea attacks on civilian targets, including Lebanese towns and villages and Palestinian camps, and on PLO centers and bases. After every such operation, Israeli officials had invariably announced that the attack was part of a war that would continue to be waged against the PLO wherever the PLO could be found.

"Therefore, they were the aggressors and we were always acting in self-defense. That is a fact which is well-known to the American administration, including Reagan, Haig, Weinberger and Richard Allen, the man who was giving the green light to Israeli aggression by justifying the right of 'hot pursuit' in south Lebanon."

The "15-day war" (July 10-25, 1981) between the joint forces and the Israelis, which led to the current cease-fire, was started by Isarel, whose air force launched it by bombing Al-Wadi al-Akhdar in the Jarmak region of the south on July 10, following that with a July 12 raid on the Damour camp and surrounding areas, and following that with the attacks on the south Lebanon bridges and the savage bombing of civilian neighborhoods in west Beirut.

Palestinian shelling of Israeli positions and kibbutzim came only as a response to those attacks, "to make it clear to the Israeli leadership and people that they will pay dearly for their aggression."

Anyone looking at the development of the situation in the south could not but realize that war or peace in that area depended on Israel. In other words, when the Israelis mounted military operations, the situation escalated, and when they held back, calm returned. An example of this was the period that preceded and followed the Israeli elections, when for a few weeks Israel was too busy to attack and calm prevailed in the south. The calm was shattered when Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon "began to go to his office, even before he was officially appointed," and launched his plan to "continue the total war on the PLO" with the July 10 air attack that sparked the 15-day war.

The PLO, "recognizing the suffering of Lebanon, especially the south, and anxious to eliminate anything that might be considered a pretext for Israeli aggression," had repeatedly pledged not to make use of the Lebanese borders in military operations Israel.

The pledge was made "to many Lebanese officials, at the Arab summit conferences, and even at the UN and the Security Council, and we reaffirm it now," Abu Jihad said. "The PLO is committed to what it has announced on this subject, its object being the welfare of the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples."

Considering these facts, Abu Jihad said, there was no doubt in his mind that "consolidating the south Lebanon cease-fire" was the last thing on Habib's mind.

"We know what Habib is carrying with him -- nothing but more conspiracies, aggression and strategic coordination with the Zionist enemy against our Palestinian people, our people in the south and our Arab nation."

Abu Jihad said the PLO was now expecting "a new aggressive operation by Israel, which will be encouraged to launch it by the fragmented Arab position, American support and the Israelis' illusion that they can deal the PLO a blow hard enough to affect its ability to make political moves on the international level -- an ability which has succeeded in increasing the isolation of Israel and the condemnation of its terrorist policies."

If Israel thought it could break the PLO, Abu Jihad said, it would find out it was mistaken, "because the will of our people will always be stronger than any aggression."

The Palestinian leader last month visited Hungary (Nov 12) and East Germany (Nov 16), accompanied by a top PLO military delegation, and held talks with top executive and defense officials on the possibility of arms supplies for the PLO.

In Hungary, he was met at the airport by the Hungarian chief of staff and he held talks with him and with the minister of defense. "The visit laid the foundation for a series of specialized military visits to follow up the agreements that were reached, including an agreement providing for Hungarian military support for the Palestinian revolution, in terms of both arms supplies and military training," Abu Jihad said.

A special East German plane was sent to Hungary to take Abu Jihad and his colleagues to East Berlin where he was received at the airport by the minister of defense and the chief of staff, along with a special military display presented in honor of the Palestinian delegation.

The visit to East Germany included three-hour talks with the minister of defense and a meeting with President Erich Honecker, who told the Palestinian delegation in a welcoming speech: "There are three crisis spots in the world which are linked to the international situation: Europe, the Caribbean and the Middle East. In the Middle East, there are continuous aggressive operations, and the Palestinian revolution more than anyone else is shouldering the responsibility of confronting those operations. We appreciate this responsibility fully, and in that light, we emphasize the need to develop our relations with you, politically and militarily.... I say with all candor that we will strive to support the PLO politically and militarily."

Abu Jihad said he had visited the two East European countries as a representative of the Higher Palestinian Military Council, and that those visits -- the first of their kind to the two countries -- had yielded three important results:

They marked the beginning of an organized military relationship between the PLO and the two countries.

They identified the ways in which the two countries would support the Palestinian revolution militarily.

They would be followed by visits to the two countries by specialized PLO military teams who would follow up the implementation of the agreements reached.

Abu Jihad did not say what those agreements were, but he did mention that during the visit to East Germany, the PLO delegation was shown a maneuver in which anti-aircraft missile bases were used. This, he said, was followed by "lengthy discussions with the officers and soldiers who manned the bases about the latest developments in anti-aircraft missiles."

The Palestinian leader, noting that the PLO would be ready for the attack the Israelis were probably planning, urged the Arabs not to let their guard down after the collapse of the Fes summit, warning them that if they allowed themselves to waver in their opposition to the Camp David process, they would probably be the target of an offensive which "would drown us all in self-defense affairs."

The outcome of the Fes summit, he said, appeared to have made some Arabs feel "proud and elated." Others felt "wounded and dejected," and others were "shocked and confused."

"The question that must be put to the Arab leaders in the strongest terms, however, is this:

"Is anyone justified in moaning and weeping over what happened?

"Is anyone justified in expressing joy over what happened?

"And are the skies of our Arab nation to be blanketed with clouds of pessimism and confusion, which would make us drift toward inaction and a resigned acceptance of the bitter results"?

In an appeal to all Arab heads of state, Abu Jihad said: "Let the nationalists among us, those of us who truly owe allegiance to our national cause and truly value the sacrifices this nation has made, swiftly bind all wounds and rally around one Arab position....faced by the failure of the Fes summit, all nationalists must quickly leap over this predicament and immediately take the initiative on all levels."

The Arabs, he said must take the initiative on four levels.

"First, they must rally around the policy of opposition to the Camp David conspiracy and its various effects and dimensions. They must fortify this position, because any chink in it would allow the Camp David partners to press ahead with a policy of offense that would down us all in self-defense affairs.

"Second, they must rally around a position of support for the struggle of the Palestinian people, who are in daily combat with the Zionist beast in the occupied territories.

"Third, on the level of international political moves, let any action we take and any dialogue we engage in spring first and foremost from the duty to support the struggle of the Palestinian people and the entire Arab nation for their inalienable, legitimate right to a Palestinian homeland, and their right to self-determination and independent statehood.

"Fourth, let us give the military option the importance and priority it deserves, strengthening our military ability and our position in the balance of power, to make our enemy take it into consideration."

All this, Abu Jihad added, must be done by the Arabs "before we talk about what positions we can offer to prove that we are moderate and reasonable."

Referring to reports and speculation in "hostile media" about "root disagreements and an imminent struggle" between the Palestinians and Syria, Abu Jihad said these were the illusions of the Arabs' enemies and their attempts to drive a wedge between the PLO and Damascus.

"The Palestinian-Syrian answer will always be stronger than these attempts, because the Syrian-Palestinian alliance is an alliance of destiny dictated by historical and geographical relations and the common American-Zionist danger," he said.

"The Palestinians and the Syrians together play the central role in the Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and in the Arab community as a whole. Their role now is to quickly breathe life into the Arab body, which has been numbed by the results of the Fes summit; to rally the Arabs around a position of opposition to Camp David; to warn them about the developments that will flow from Camp David, and to restore Arab solidarity on the causes in which our nation, in all its countries, believes."

The PLO, Abu Jihad said, had its own role to play to that end, and it would play it in bilateral and collective contacts with the influential Arab countries.

As far as the PLO itself was concerned, "No matter what differences sometimes occur over political issues, there is a deep realization of the need to move quickly toward a unified position.... In the spirit of the democratic dialogues and decisions of the Palestinian national council," Abu Jihad said.

"In spite of everything, we are confident that the alertness and commitment of the Palestinian leaderships are stronger than any attempt to push them into an illusory internal struggle. The successive steps that were taken in the Palestinian arena recently to bolster unified action is the best answer to those who imagine they can create an internal Palestinian struggle."

Abu Jihad said that after the Fes summit, the PLO Executive Committee held a meeting in which it evaluated the effects of the summit on the Palestinian cause and decided to take four measures in support of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories.

These were:

1. Continuing the meetings of the Higher Palestinian Military Council to develop unified military action.

2. Continuing the joint measures towards a general mobilization to increase "the human capability of the forces of the revolution and enable them to face all eventualities, especially since we are expecting Zionist aggression at any time."

3. Creating an executive council for the occupied territories which will keep a close watch on the Palestinian people's struggle in the West Bank and Gaza and use all available means to support that struggle. The council will be made up of the Palestinian members of the Joint Committee for the Support of the Steadfastness of the Palestinian People and the top officials in every Palestinian organization who are responsible for the affairs of the occupied territories.

4. Creating a military committee for the occupied territories in which all Palestinian organizations are represented. The committee has already started its meetings. "The task of this committee," Abu Jihad said, "is to escalate the military struggle in the occupied territories and coordinate all efforts to that end."

This, he said, was what the Palestinians had done after the FES summit, "but much more must be done. The Palestinian leaderships must quickly decide on other practical measures towards the achievement of Palestinian national unity and the further unification of the revolution's military arm."

Where the occupied territories were concerned, Abu Jihad said that the Israeli authorities were now following a two-pronged policy of trying to introduce a civilian occupation authority and using an "iron fist" approach to deal with the opposition of the people of the West Bank and Gaza.

The idea of a civilian administration, he said, was meant to hide "the ugly face of Israeli occupation" from the rest of the world. Thus, a university professor (Menahem Milson) was appointed civilian governor of the West Bank and is now handling all municipal affairs, but security matters were still under Israeli military control.

In Gaza, no civilian could be found for the post of governor, so the appointment went to a military general (Yosef Luns), who, however, took the title of "civilian governor."

To impose this "civilian administration" on the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, who immediately rejected it and made their rejection known worldwide by rioting and staging demonstrations, Abu Jihad said the occupation authorities were resorting to a variety of "iron fist" measures, including the following:

-- An attempt to break the ranks of the Palestinians by creating the so-called "village leagues" and appointing as their president one Mustafa Dudin, a man who stands accused by the Palestinians of collaboration with Israeli intelligence. The Israelis are trying to promote the "village leagues" as an alternative to the Palestinian municipalities, first by taking punitive action against those who refuse to deal with the leagues, and second by making it difficult for the people to get what they need from the municipalities and easy for them to get it from the village leagues.

The Palestinians in the occupied territories, however, continue to oppose the leagues and have shown their opposition in a variety of peaceful and violent means -- including the assassination of a number of village league leaders.

-- An attempt to force a dialogue with the civilian administration. This is being done by sending troops to the homes and offices of Palestinian personalities and forcing them to go to the office of the civilian governor, who then apologizes for the inconvenience and informs his reluctant guests that he only wants to have a dialogue with them in conditions that allow them to express their views freely. In every case, however, the governor is faced with opposition to his administration and support for the PLO.

-- Violent action against all forms of protest. This has included the use of lethal weapons to scatter demonstrators, invasion of schools and universities, collective punishment of editors, harassment of dissidents in their homes and at checkpoints, etc.

"At the same time, the confiscation of land continues," Abu Jihad said, "The land is used to expand existing Jewish settlements and build new ones, the final objective being to link those settlements and turn them into 'security belts' around Arab towns.

"In the past six months alone, 1,870 housing units have been built on confiscated land in the West Bank. In the past year, 23 new settlements have been built, eight of them in the past four months. As the director of the settlements section of the world Zionist organization said recently, the target is to build 4,000 new housing units in Jewish settlements in the occupied territories this year."

He added: "The construction of these housing units and the roads linking the settlements is being undertaken by a company called 'The Samaria Star,' which is working with full government approval and with Israeli-American capital."

The activities of the Israeli occupation authorities in the West Bank and Gaza "are uglier than those of the Nazis," Abu Jihad said. "But our people there are sturggling on with an iron will, confident that victory will be theirs no matter what the sacrifices that have to be made on the way."

DFLP'S HAWATIMAH REJECTS SAUDI PEACE PLAN

AU141452 Prague PRACE in Czech 12 Dec 81 p 2

[Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, interviewed in Prague by F. Sulc: "For the Palestinians' Legitimate Rights"; date of interview not specified]

[Text] Events in the Middle East are approaching a point beyond which the military threat will cease to be a mere threat, the Swiss Daily NEUE ZUERCHER Zeitung wrote a few days ago. The present U.S. administration is trying to establish in this area a "pax Americana" based on U.S. domination and on the satisfaction of American imperialism's interests at the expense of the interests of other countries and nations. The word "peace," however, is not at all fitting when we want to characterize American policy.

Nayif Hawatimah, general secretary of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, recently paid a visit to Prague at the invitation of the Central Committee of the CSSR National Front. We asked him for an interview on the latest events in the Middle East. Asked about the Arab countries' negative stand on American proposals, Comrade Hawatimah said:

It must be stressed that the Middle East is becoming an increasingly important area of American interests, that Washington is trying to set up military bases there and gain control over Arab oil. In a broader context, this also means possibile attempts to put into effect global anti-Soviet plans. In pursuing this policy, Washington is using Israel as a reconnaissance patrol. Tel Aviv wants to liquidate all rights of the Arab people and sustain the occupation of Palestinian territories.

The Camp David agreements are curling up in convulsive fits and that is why Saudi Arabia has now undertaken the task and is trying to get the PLO to recognize the Camp David agreements. Thereby it is fully assuming the position of American imperialism and wants to enable Washington to strengthen its positions in the Middle East. That is also the reason for the failure of the summit of Arab states [in Fes]. Not only the Palestinians but also the states of the steadfastness front and other Arab countries refused to discuss the Saudi Arabian plan. The Palestinians thus achieved a great victory.

[Question] What course, in your view, will the assertion of the Camp David agreements take next?

[Answer] Israel and Arab reaction, which is represented after As-Sadat's death especially by Mubarak, will not become reconciled to this failure, and attacks on the interests of the Palestinians and on a peaceful settlement in the Middle East will continue. This is demonstrated, for example, by the Bright Star maneuvers, by the reinforcement of U.S. military aid to states in the region, by shipments of arms to Saudi Arabia and so forth.

[Question] What is the true impact of the mission of Reagan's special envoy Habib?

[Answer] We have had bitter experience with Habib. He has travelled in the Middle East several times and has never produced anything good. For example, shortly after one of his trips Tel Aviv bombarded the Iraqi nuclear reactor using aircraft supplied by the United States. In the course of another of his trips there was an extensive bombardment of Beirut that claimed several hundred lives. We cannot, therefore, expect any positive results this time either. Quite the contrary, the goal of his efforts is to attach the Middle East to the interests of American imperialism.

[Question] In Washington the U.S. secretary of defense and the Israeli minister of defense signed a protocol on strategic cooperation between the two countries. How will this agreement influence Israeli policy?

[Answer] This agreement is directed, above all, against Arab states. It helps to sustain the occupation of Arab territories and frees Israel's hands for new acts of banditry against its neighbors. By the way, Habib told political forces in Lebanon that troops of the Palestinian revolution must withdraw from Lebanon, otherwise they will be liquidated by Israel. We can therefore anticipate that in the days to come there will be new actions against the Palestinians. An indication of this is also the increasing number of attempts by CIA and Israeli agents to assassinate Palestinian figures and the terrorism against the Palestinian population.

In this context I would also like to mention the planned withdrawal of Israeli occupation troops from the Sinai peninsula. This withdrawal is to be completed by April next year and American troops are to be deployed there, under the cover of "international forces." This will mean a reinforcement of American military presence in the region and another dangerous hotbed of tension.

[Question] What is your view on a peaceful settlement, and what is the Palestinians' stand on this issue?

[Answer] A peaceful solution cannot be brought to the Middle East by any separate agreements but only by broadly based international accords as proposed by the USSR, which would defend the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. The Palestinians realize that only accords that will be guaranteed by the USSR and socialist countries can safeguard peace in the Middle East. We want to strengthen the ties between the Palestinian revolution and revolutionary forces in Lebanon, consolidate the Steadfastness Front, ensure solidarity against the Camp David agreements and, naturally, ensure the return of Palestinians to their homes.

GULF AFFAIRS

GULF COUNCIL OFFICIAL ON GOLAN, SAUDI PLAN

GF171049 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0540 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 16 Dec (WAKH) -- Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] Secretary General 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah arrived in Abu Dhabi this evening from Riyadh to participate in the seminar on Gulf manpower that will start tomorrow. Speaking on arrival Bisharah stressed the importance of Arab cooperation in this critical stage so that the Arab nation will be able to resist Israel and its supporters.

He assailed Israel's action in annexing the Syrian Golan Heights and said: "Zionist defiance has gone too far in belittling Arab dignity. There must be a degree of Arab solidarity to confront this defiance."

The GCC general secretary added: "The GCC shoulders the greater part of the burden in achieving this solidarity because its members are not party to or involved in any disputes with their Arab sisters. The GCC countries were and still are playing the peacemakers role among the fraternal Arab countries."

Referring to the Saudi peace plan, 'Abdallah Bisharah said: "The GCC countries assert that the Saudi plan is the way to any Arab action."

BAHRAIN

SABOTEURS' CACHE OF ARMS, AMMUNITION DISCOVERED

GF171913 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1805 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Manama, 17 Dec (WAKH) -- A cache of arms belonging to the group of saboteurs who were recently arrested in Bahrain has been discovered. It contains machineguns, handgrenades and a quantity of ammunition. Investigation has proven that these arms were smuggled from Iran.

The discovered arms include six French-made machineguns, four Soviet-made handgrenades, one pistol and a quantity of ammunition. Quoting a responsible security source, tomorrow's edition of the Bahraini newspaper AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ states: "During interrogation, one gang leader confessed that an arrested colleague knew the hiding place of the arms the group was intending to use in its sabotage plot." The source added: "While interrogating the second person on arms, he confessed that there was a cache of arms at his brother's house in a western village in Bahrain. He specified where.

The security source said: "This person is one of the group members who had military training in Iran." The source added: "Security forces immediately went and carefully searched the house. A quantity of arms and ammunition was discovered buried in a cowshed behind the house." He went on: "The investigation -- which is still going on -- has proven that these arms were smuggled from Iran."

AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ said: "Investigators believe that there are still other quantities of arms and what has been discovered so far is only a portion of the arms the group intended to use in its sabotage plot."

It is worth noting that the number of group members is 60. Of this there are 13 Saudi nationals, 1 Kuwaiti national, and 1 Omani national. The rest are Bahrainis.

Envoy in Iran Recalled

GF171925 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1830 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Manama, 17 Dec (WAKH) -- The state of Bahrain has asked the Iranian Government to recall its charge d'affaires in Bahrain Hasan (Shoshtari) Zadeh because of his involvement with the sabotage group and to replace him with another diplomat.

Tomorrow's edition of the Bahraini newspaper AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ states that Bahraini Ambassador to Iran Husayn as-Sabbagh and a number of embassy staff members have returned to Manama after being recalled by the government following the discovery of Iran's role in the sabotage plot.

It is worth noting that five armed Iranians stormed the Bahraini Embassy in Tehran on 14 December and submitted a written memorandum claiming responsibility for the group of saboteurs and demanding the release of the group members who were arrested.

AMIR RELEASES PRISONERS ON NATIONAL DAY

GF171620 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1415 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Manama, 17 Dec (WAKH) -- Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah issued a decree today ordering the release of a number of prisoners. This action was taken on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the amir's accession to power in Bahrain, as it is his custom to do so on such occasions.

BRIEFS

POWERPLANT AGREEMENT -- Bahrain has signed an agreement with a German firm to construct a second powerplant at Ar-Rifa'. The plant will cost about BD85 million and will consist of six gas turbines. The first two units in the plant will begin operating in 1983, and it will be completed by 1985. The plant will produce about 423 megawatts of power. [Manama WAKH in Arabic 0815 GMT 14 Dec 81 GF]

KUWAIT

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DENOUNCES ANTI-ARAB INCIDENTS

LD171116 Kuwait KUNA in English 1453 GMT 16 Dec 81

["Text" of statement issued by the Kuwaiti National Assembly on 16 December; quotation marks as received]

[Text] Kuwait, 16 Dec (KUNA) -- "The Kuwaiti National Assembly expresses with deep regret its denounciation and condemnation of the regrettable incidents which came recently in succession and had a painful effect compelling the Arab nation to take a stern positive stand regarding them.

"The first of these incidents was what the brotherly government of the state of Bahrain broadcast on the arrest of a subversive group, who were said to be of Arab Gulf nationalities, aiming to spread terror and chaos to shake the security and stability in the fraternal state.

"The group was also said to be aiming at spreading disturbances in succession in the other Arab states, to cloud their atmosphere and assassinate the officials there; a measure which will benefit the foreign hostile powers at the expense of the interest of the sons of the Gulf states. The group is reported to be aiming at (?wrestling) these states, infringing on their sovereignty and challenging the will of their people in adopting an independent policy away from rivalries or submission to any foreign influence however powerful it might be.

"The assembly has no alternative, regarding these terrorist intrigues, but to appeal to the Arab states, to the Gulf Cooperation Council and to the government of the state of Behrain to scrutinise the facts by holding public trials for the accused in the hostile attempts engineered against the secured state, to divulge its dimensions, motives, designers and plotters and to remedy the situation emanating thereof in a radical and firm action so that the danger does not spread nor its scope widens.

The assembly declares that the people of Kuwait, with all their resources, stand as one front besides the sisterly Bahrain, affirming their full support and solidarity and deep condemnation of the conspiracy.

"In its keenness to avert widening of the range of the Iraqi-Iranian war and depending on news agencies reports that the Iranian authorities had executed the Iraqi prisoners of war, thus violating the principles of the Islamic religion, the human values and norms and the accepted international agreements and traditions, the assembly believes that this illegal procedure might deepen the gap of difference between the two warring countries and shatters the glimpses of hope in a just settlement.

"That has been timed with an American extremism in humiliating the Arab consensus in the case of the Palestinian national Ziyad 'Abu 'Ayn. Numerous appeals and extensive efforts were exerted to convince the American administration of the illigitimacy of extraditing the citizen to the Zionist occupation authorities and efforts were made to explain that the matter in that case was not related to an individual but was a matter of principles of international law and justice and human rights and that the delivery of the aforementioned is considered a flagrant violation of the international norms and affirms the submission of America to the Zionist pressure and is above all that a grave precedent revealing a racialist hostile spirit.

"It is not enough for the Arab states to declare their denounciation and condemnation of the oppressive measure but is obligatory to be coupled by a consensus on the imperativeness of revising the manner of dealings with the American administration and adoption of a unified positive stand in a firm spirit.

"Among the tragedies which have been befalling the Arab nation recently was the application by the Zionist enemy of its law imposing Zionist administration on the occupied Golan Heights thus adding another crime to the series of crimes which the Zionist being does not hesitate in committing against the Arabs. That was a consequence of American-Israeli strategic alliance which encourages Zionism to carry its aggression to the extreme and violate the sanctities of the Arab states and their legitimate rights.

The Kuwaiti National Assembly calls upon the Arab states to close their ranks, repudiate their differences and evaluate their attitudes under the current circumstances and in the light of the new developments manifested by the American-Israeli alliance whose first harvest was the exposed aggressive intentions of the Zionist being. Whereas the American policy had affirmed, in the [word indistinct], its intentions toward the Arab case, the recent French policy and its exposed flagrant alignment and reversal of former stands toward the Palestinian case, compels us to revise the Arab-French relations and the mutual interests between France and the Arab states.

"Because of all that, the National Assembly calls upon the Arab states and people to be vigil and confront the conspiracies designed against them and the harm intended towards them. While affirming this fact in honest belief, the assembly believes that the attainment of these objectives can best be fulfilled by adhering to the Islamic Shari'a provisions and exercise of its beneficial principles on which true democracy, emanating from the teachings of our benevolent religion, rests and in compliance with the saying of the almighty Allah in the holy Koran calling for consultations in matters of issue and praising those who consult with each other.

GUINEA-BISSAU LEADER ARRIVES FOR OFFICIAL VISIT

LD140956 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0840 GMT 14 Dec 81

[Text] Kuwait, 14 Dec (KUNA) -- The president of the African Republic of Guinea-Bissau, Joao Bernardo Vieira, arrived in Kuwait today on a 3-day official visit. The amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah was at the head of those who welcomed him. They will hold talks which will center around strengthening relations between the two countries, especially in the economic sectors, and on the possibility of Kuwait being willing to finance development projects in this African country.

Talks With Amir

LD151046 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Text] The President of Guinea-Bissau, His Excellency President Joao Bernardo Vieira, this morning called on the amir of Kuwait at As-Sayif Palace. The two sides held official talks there.

The minister of affairs of the amir's office has stated that during the talks views were exchanged on issues of mutual interest, in particular African-Arab links and the means of developing and bolstering them. The talks also dealt with bilateral relations between the two countries and views were exchanged about the means of developing and advancing them to ensure further understanding and cooperation between the two friendly peoples.

A cordial atmosphere prevailed during the talks which were distinguished by understanding and the spirit of friendship.

Press Statement Issued

LD161142 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Press statement on Guinea-Bissau President Joao Bernardo Vieira's visit to Kuwait; issued in Kuwait 16 December]

[Text] At the invitation of His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, amir of Kuwait, His Excellency Joao Bernardo Vieira, president of Guinea-Bissau paid an official visit to Kuwait 14 through 16 December 1981. His excellency the guest was given a warm reception, reflecting the good relations between the two countries and their two friendly peoples. The two heads of state held official talks in a friendly atmosphere on bilateral relations and the current international situation.

Discussing bilateral relations, they noted with satisfaction the growing cooperation and expressed their determination to continue the development of relations in various fields. Both sides expressed confidence that the maintenance of security and stability in the Gulf is the responsibility of its states alone, without any foreign interference. His excellency the guest president welcomed the setting up of the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council.

Discussing the critical and dangerous situation in the Middle East, both sides confirmed that a just and lasting peace in the region cannot be achieved without Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and the Palestinian people's recovery of their firm national legitimate rights, including that of setting up their own independent state. They also confirmed their countries' support for the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Both sides also condemned Israel's practices, in violation of human rights, in the occupied Arab territories. Both sides confirmed their full support for the African peoples struggle to liquidate colonialism and all forms of foreign domination, for the rule of racial minorities and for their freedom and independence.

Regarding South Africa, in line with the principle of the right of peoples to self-determination, both sides expressed support for the just struggle of the people of Namibia, led by SWAPO, and for the liberation and independence of Namibia. They urged the international community to take effective measures to force South Africa to end its illegal occupation of Namibia and to end its repeated aggressions against the independent African confrontation states and the discrimination against African citizens in South Africa.

Within the context of Arab-African cooperation, both sides expressed their determination to give full support to secure the success of the meetings at all levels with the aim of (?consolidating) this cooperation. His excellency the president of Guinea-Bissau expressed his extreme gratitude for the warm and generous reception accorded him and the accompanying delegation by his highness the amir of Kuwait, and his people and government. His excellency invited his highness the amir of Kuwait to visit Guinea-Bissau. His highness accepted the invitation with gratitude, the date to be fixed later.

AL-WATAN 'EXPOSES' LEBANESE LIBERATION FRONT

PM111241 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 6 Dec 81 p 9

[Unattributed "exclusive" report: "AL-WATAN Reveals Secret of Front for Liberation of Lebanon From Foreigners"]

[Excerpts] Beirut -- An organization calling itself the "Front for the Liberation of Lebanon From Foreigners" has issued a statement claiming responsibility for the recent horrifying explosion in Damascus, despite the fact that Syria has officially blamed the Muslim Brotherhood and despite the fact that the Muslim Brotherhood issued a statement in Bonn claiming responsibility.

The name of the Front for the Liberation of Lebanon From Foreigners appeared earlier after car bombs exploded in Beirut, Sidon and other areas. So, what is this front, and is it just a cover for other groups?

AL-WATAN has obtained information about this front from sources close to several security circles and has put together the following report:

According to security information, the front consists of elements from the [Lebanese] Army's Deuxieme Bureau and an organization headed by the son of a prominent member of the Chamber of Deputies. Sa'd Haddad and Israel play a significant role in it. It has been proved that one of the car bombs which exploded in the center of An-Nabatiyah came from the occupied border strip via roads under the control of UN forces.

Furthermore, scores of Phalangist Party members carrying forged identity cards have been uncovered. Some cards were issued by Camille Sham'un when he was interior minister and some were stolen. Here one should not overlook the important role played by the U.S. Embassy in Beirut in providing information about the movements of nationalist leaders and personalities and about the dates and times of the political and military meetings of the joint forces leaders. According to informed nationalist sources, responsible Washington circles promised Bashir al-Jumayyil some accurate information about the situation in the nationalist areas and the political and military activities in it. They also promised to feed information to Menahem Begin about the Arab region in general. One also must note here the coordination between the intelligence directorate of the Lebanese military establishment and the American CIA after visits to Washington by Al-Jumayyil and his aides and by well-known officers, and meetings with CIA officials. Visits were also made to a certain Arab state which has had some experience in fighting the resistance.

The security departments of the [Palestinian] resistance and the National Movement have put together the information received from sources in Palestinian, nationalist and official security circles, and have drawn a number of conclusions. The following are the most important:

1. The plans for the recent explosions were drawn up by the Deuxieme Bureau and the Phalangists. These plans, especially for the Beirut and Sidon explosions, were formulated at a center directly supervised by the Phalangist Military Council. It is one of two centers controled by the Phalangist Military Council where explosives and boobytrapped cars are prepared.

2. The people manning these centers come from various groups. An Israeli officer supervises the preparation of the explosives and another officer charts the implementation course. The operations are carried out by "mercenary" agents in return for astronomical fees. Facilities are provided for them by suspect groups that can enter all areas. The two centers are under the command of a senior Israeli intelligence officer who resides in Juniyah.

3. Certain groups move between the eastern and western areas [of Beirut] to carry information to and from the terrorist commands in both sectors of the capital. These commands meet with the Phalangist Military Council before the implementation of any bomb-planting operation.

4. Intelligence groups at the U.S. Embassy provide information about the movements of nationalist and Palestinian leaders.

5. The terrorist commands use sophisticated television and radio equipment to observe the progress of bomb-planting operations.

All these facts expose the secret of the "Front for the Liberation of Lebanon From Foreigners." This front is actually a joint effort by all these sides. Each one uses its name as a cover for its activities.

OMAN

MUSCAT RADIO EXAMINES PDRY, LIBYAN 'CONSPIRACY'

EA152336 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1320 GMT 15 Dec 81

[From "Under the Spotlight" program prepared by Mamdum Isma'il]

[Excerpts] The truth of the matter is that what happened in Bahrain cannot be separated from other events that have occurred and will continue to occur in the Arab Peninsula and Gulf region, because all of them have the same objective, that is, to undermine the stability and security of the region. All these confirm the importance of the coming meetings of the Interior and Defense Ministers of the member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) as they also confirm the link between internal security and the security and defense of the region against any external aggression.

The more such events increase in number and the more swiftly they occur, the more they reveal to us the extent of the conspiracies and machinations. These conspiracies and machinations are not only aimed against the GCC's progressive march but are also aimed at obstructing every collective Arab action to establish an international position on the recovery of Arab rights.

What is deplorable and also requires circumspection and vigilance is that two Arab states, South Yemen and Libya, are behind the rising tide of conspiracy against the Arab homeland, both its eastern and western wings, not as a result of a purely Arab conflict, but because they are spurred on by the USSR to impose sterile ideas that do not conform with the Muhammadan call [dawa Muhammadiyah] which originated in the Arab land. What has happened in the fraternal state of Bahrain must have pleased the rulers of South Yemen and Libya because they have a common policy to shake the stability of and spread terrorism in the Arab peninsula, Gulf and Africa in particular, and in many other parts of the world in general. The peoples of South Yemen and Libya are the first victims of this terrorism.

This has created bonds between the Aden and Tripoli regimes. If we want to cite some examples of similarities between the two regimes -- their policy of terrorism and their sowing of the seeds of discord -- we will find examples in:

1. The meeting held in Addis Ababa last Sunday, attended by 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, the South Yemen defense minister [as heard], and the Ethiopian deputy premier, within the framework of the so-called Joint Committee for Defense and Security affairs, was part of a series of continuing conspiracies against the Arab homeland, both its eastern and western parts. We all know the Ethiopian regime is facing a war with the Eritreans and the Ethiopian Tigre front opposed to communism, a situation that has transformed the Horn of Africa into a dangerous hotbed of tension.

We all know that forces from the USSR, South Yemen and Cuba are fighting these patriotic currents. What is the meaning behind this meeting when South Yemen knows full well it does not face even the remote possibility of provocation against it and at a time when Gulf mediation is continuing between the sultanate and South Yemen?

What is the meaning behind Libya's participation in this sudden and mysterious meeting? Is Libya not aware that its own withdrawal from Chad, the declaration of the new Egyptian leadership to the effect that it will not engage in war with any Arab state and the withdrawal of the Egyptian forces from the border with Libya have removed all elements of tension from around Libya? This tripartite meeting can be nothing but part of a conspiracy being hatched against the GCC states in the east and the African states in the west.

2. On the 9th of this month Sudan accused Libya of being behind the threats received by three Sudanese embassies abroad, in Washington, Bonn and Kuwait, after Al-Qadhdhafi sent a group of terrorists to meet in Vienna to prepare a plan of attack against those embassies. Libya has not denied the accusation. [words indistinct] Moreover the international terrorist, Carlos, has taken up permanent residence in Libya. Al-Qadhdhafi relies on him to draw up and implement terrorist operations with which he threatens the neighboring and the non-neighboring states. Carlos was also seen in South Yemen on several occasions carrying out terrorist activities for the Soviets, paid for by Aden and Libya.

3. When the Libyan foreign minister boasts in an interview with NEW AFRICAN that the steadfastness front has attained its objective by rejecting the Saudi peace plan, and when he behaves arrogantly toward those who sincerely and honestly occupy themselve with Arab nationalist causes and says that the Arab summit in Fes would have been successful had it condemned the plan, when he does this he is really expressing a consistent Libyan policy which constitutes an extension of the Aden rulers' policy, a policy of (?fireworks) inside the Arab homeland.

Both Aden and Tripoli have become factors of division and disunity and a heavy burden on the Arab march at a time when events should be driving the Arab nation toward amity and solidarity in order to confront direct and open challenges.

The Libyan and South Yemen rulers will continue with their role, a role drawn up for them by the Soviets who do not want to see the Arab-Israeli conflict settled because a solution to the problem that has sapped so much of Arab resources will rob them of any justification to remain in the region.

4. Soviet [word indistinct] and communist penetration of any Arab state is a matter that has been rejected by all the Arab peoples. The experience of the last quarter century has confirmed that. Despite that, the Aden rulers transformed their country into a communist state and their loyalty to the Kremlin is greater than even that of the rulers of Hungary or Czechoslovakia.

The British DAILY TELEGRAPH said in an article titled "A Soviet Eye in Aden" that Bulgarian engineers are busy building a huge military complex in the mountains around Aden which is to be a new headquarters for all the communist Warsaw Pact forces in South Yemen, regarded by the USSR as the most loyal of all Middle East countries. The paper went on to say that the new base in the mountains [words indistinct], in addition to special interest in the security of Soviet military personnel, who have been subjected to assaults by the citizens of South Yemen. Reports confirm that three separate explosions have occurred near the Khormaksar base. The DAILY TELEGRAPH went on to say that the Soviets have set up a network of missile bases in South Yemen extending from (Al-Mansuriyah) [as heard] in Aden's suburbs to Bir Faol and from Dar Sad to [word indistinct].

The objective of the Soviet massing of military forces is the states of the region, in particular the Sultanate of Oman, which is firmly opposed to communism in the region.

As for Libya, its armories have been filled with Soviet weapons which in quantity exceed Libya's defensive requirements. But al-Qadhdhafi now relies on mercenaries in his military interventions and his terrorist operations, beginning with the shelling of (?Tunis) and ending with his withdrawal from Chad.

But as we said, the Aden and Tripoli rulers will continue their conspiratorial policies and attempts to strike at any constructive Gulf or Arab action so long as it does not conform to the aims of their Moscow masters. The Aden rulers will continue to practice terrorism and to suppress freedom in South Yemen while Al-Qadhdhafi will continue to send murderers to assassinate opponents outside Libya.

All these events are parts of the same picture. The sultanate saw this and understood its dimensions. Omani leadership began wisely and confidently to move deliberately in two basic directions:

One was to develop its own defensive capabilities. The events of the last few days and the national exercises we saw confirm that Oman succeeded in this arena in a manner that will ensure for Oman the preservation of its sacred soil and its confidence to confront any atheistic attempts. The second direction comprised steady efforts through the GCC to draw up a joint defensive plan to secure the region against malicious conspirators [words indistinct].

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED WITH SRI LANKA

GF171324 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1208 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Muscat, 17 Dec (WAKH) -- The Sultanate of Oman decided today to establish diplomatic relations with the Republic of Sri Lanka. A statement issued in the Omani capital today said the governments of both countries agreed to establish links of friendship and cooperation on the bases of the principles of respect, national sovereignty and nonintervention in the internal affairs of each other. The statement added that the governments of both countries hope the establishment of diplomatic relations will result in the achievement and development of joint cooperation and mutual interests.

SAUDI ARABIA

AL-JAZIRAH COMMENTS ON FRENCH-ISRAELI RELATIONS

PM151011 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 8 Dec 81 p 2

[Jasir al-Jasir article]

[Text] The French external affairs minister arrived in occupied Palestine yesterday on a visit which, Zionist circles say, heralds a new era in French-Israeli relations.

Zionist circles seem to have waited a long time after Mitterrand reached the highest seat to power before openly talking about a new era in French-Israeli relations. Mitterrand the candidate, whose record was full of evidence of his deep friendship with Israel and its leaders, cannot be different from Mitterrand the president. Mitterrand himself confirmed this on his first day in the Elysee Palace.

The new era, which Zionist circles started talking about after Cheysson's arrival in occupied Palestine, actually began on that day.

8. Realistically, relations are judged on the basis of atittudes, not on visits exchanged. France's attitutdes have recently been very much in favor of Israel. Anyone who studies the French attitude at the various European conferences -- the latest was the London summit -- will see to what extent France was supported Israel. President Mitterrand personally objected to the issuance of any statement by the European summit in support of the Palestinians' right to set up their own state. At the time, this was described as a French veto.

Sources in President Mitterrand's French Socialist Party claim this French position is necessary to demonstrate France's neutrality in the Arab-Israeli conflict and to make it easier for France to contribute to promoting an acceptable solution to the Middle East problem. The party has always used this pretext to justify all its pro-Israeli positions whenever the Arabs showed resentment. It seems that the Socialists believe that neutrality cannot be real unless it means siding with the Zionist state. This is identical to the Zionist definition of neutrality.

If France really wants to play a serious and effective role in promoting a just settlement and a just peace, then it must change this policy. There is a reasonable limit to the patience of the Arab states which still have not lost faith in Mitterrand's France, and there is a limit to how long they can wait. It is logically inconceivable for the Arabs to accept a partial interpretation of France's neutrality. If Israel has managed to force France to follow this aligned course, the Arabs can make France rectify its position. They have the means to compel not only France, but all the other European states which have recently begun to be affected by the French attitutde, to follow a sound course.

UAE

OFFICIAL 'REGRETS' EXECUTION OF IRAQI POW'S

GF161634 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1205 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 16 Dec (WAKH) -- The UAE has strongly regretted the execution of Iraqi captives. An official source in the UAE Foreign Ministry has stated that the UAE has very regrettably received the news of the killing of a number of Iraqi captives. This action is not approved by international agreements and does not conform with the teachings of Islam.

The UAE has expressed the hope that the efforts to put an end to the fighting between the two neighboring Muslim states will succeed and that peace in the region will prevail.

FOREIGN MINISTER, LIBYAN ENVOY MEET 15 DEC

GF151644 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1405 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 15 Dec (WAKH) -- Mr Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of foreign affairs, met here today with Mr Mahmud (Marya), the Libyan brotherhood office secretary to the UAE.

During the meeting, bilateral relations, current Arab developments and issues of mutual interest were discussed.

GABONESE ENVOY ARRIVES WITH PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

GF171628 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1420 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 17 Dec (WAKH) -- (Mohamed Mobah Arisani), head of the Gabonese Foreign Ministry's Political Department, arrived in Abu Dhabi this evening. Mr (Mobah) stated that he has a message for UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan from Gabonese President el-Hadj Omar Bongo on bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

BRIEFS

OIL, GAS EXPORTS -- The UAE Central Bank has published an economic bulletin reviewing oil exports during the first 6 months of this year as compared with the same period of last year. The value of oil exports during the first 6 months of the year was 35.6 billion dirhams compared with 34.12 billion during the same period last year. The value of gas exports during the period was 300 million dirhams compared with 900 million during the same period last year. The value of nonpetroleum exports during the same period was 4.32 billion dirhams compared with 3.21 billion last year. [Manama WAKH in Arabic 0935 GMT 13 Dec 81 GF]

PDRY

LEADER RATIFIES HUNGARIAN FRIENDSHIP TREATY

EA161942 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Summary] Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad yesterday ratified by decree the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the PDRY and Hungary, signed during his visit to Hungary last month.

YAR

YAR TO ATTEND ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING

JN172025 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] A responsible Foreign Ministry source has stated that the YAR has agreed to attend the Arab foreign ministers emergency conference called for by Syria today to discuss the new Zionist aggression against the Arab nation represented by the Zionist enemy government's decision to annex the Syrian Golan Heights.

AL-QADHDHAFI SENDS LETTER BACKING YEMENI UNITY

JN132034 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 13 Dec 81

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani received in his office today 'Abd ar-Rahman 'Atiq, head of the Libyan brotherhood office in San'a', who handed him a letter addressed to brother leader Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih from his brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in which he voiced the support of the Libyan Jamahiriyah and its absolute backing for the positive results of the resent meeting between presidents 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad on the path of Yemeni unity.

CABINET ISSUES STATEMENT ON GOLAN DECISION

NC171355 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Dec 81

[17 December statement released by the Cabinet following a special morning session under the chairmanship of First Deputy Prime Minister Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din]

[Text] The Cabinet heard a report by the deputy prime minister and foreign minister regarding the Israeli Cabinet decision on Monday, 14 December, and the Knesset approval on the same day applying Israeli legislation to the Syrian Golan territory and its effect on the area's peace and stability. The Cabinet has decided to condemn this Israeli decision because it blatantly contravenes UN Security Council Resolution 242, which provides for Israeli withdrawal from occupied territory, the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war, and the need to work for a just and lasting peace in which every state in the area can live in security. It also provides for the acknowledgement of the sovereignty of every state in the area and their right to live in peace within secure and recognized bounderies free from threats or acts of force.

The Cabinet considers this Israeli measure as contravening the peace framework in the Middle East signed in Camp David on 17 September 1978 and as contradicting the paragraphs that follow in that framework -- that peace requires respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence for every state in the area, as well as the right to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries free from threats or acts of violence. It also provides that for peace to be permanent it must include all those most strongly affected by the conflict.

The Cabinet statement said that in addition to this, the unilateral Israeli measure contradicts the concept of peace in the area outlined in the Camp David framework. Consequently, it does not provide suitable conditions to encourage all the parties concerned to participate in building peace. Thus, Egypt, which chose peace as an irreversible course and path to keep the peoples of the area from the disasters of wars and to unleash their potential for development and prosperity, totally rejects the Israeli decision, because it constitutes a threat to the requirements of peace about which Egypt is concerned. Egypt calls on all parties to demonstrate sincere intentions and unify their efforts toward this end.

The statement said that the Israeli measure comes at a time when attempts are being made to restore confidence between the Israeli Government and the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and to get the Palestinian people to participate in the negotiations to determine their future and to fully shoulder their responsibility in facing their question without pressure or interference in their will. Thus, the Israeli decision does not help the efforts aimed at implementing the provisions of the peace framework in the Middle East through action to reach a solution by negotiations, a solution that recognizes the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

The Cabinet statement concludes by saying that the latest Israeli measure requires more than at any time before concerted international efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East that includes all the states and peoples of the area to achieve stability and progress. For this reason, the Israeli Government must refrain from taking any measure that contravenes the provisions of international law, the UN Resolutions and the agreements it signed with Egypt. The Cabinet stressed Egypt's determination to achieve a comprehensive peace in the area. It appealed to the governments of peace-loving countries to concert their efforts to achieve peace and stability in the area.

MUHYI AD-DIN REPORTS ON CABINET MEETING

NC171358 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 Dec (MENA) -- Replying to foreign correspondents' questions following today's Cabinet meeting, First Deputy Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din said that the government today adopted a decision denouncing the Israeli measure which contravenes UN Security Council Resolution 242 and the Camp David agreements. This measure does not help create an atmosphere of confidence between the Israeli Government and the Palestinians, the core of the dispute in the Middle East problem.

Replying to a question on the impact of the Israeli measure on the withdrawal from Sinai, Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din said: The measure is not supposed to have any effect. "We are continuing the autonomy talks, which will be resumed after 2 weeks, and we are also continuing to normalize relations."

Regarding Egypt's diplomatic activity on the recent Israeli decision, the first deputy prime minister said President Mubarak will address messages on Egypt's stand to U.S. President Ronald Reagan, Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin and to the Nonaligned Movement Bureau. Messages will also be addressed to the presidents of Sudan, Somalia and Oman.

Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din added that Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali is currently conducting intensive diplomatic and political contacts to explain Egypt's stand and to give impetus to the peace process in the area.

LIBERAL PARTY DENOUNCES ISRAELI DECISION

NC171426 Cairo MENA in English 1325 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 Dec (MENA) -- The Socialist Liberal Party today denounced the Israeli decision to annex the Syrian Golan Heights, describing it as "illegal." This came in a statement released by the party following its emergency meeting under its leader Mustafa Kamil Murad.

The party expressed support for the stance adopted by President Husni Mubarak and the Egyptian Government vis-a-vis the Israeli decision. The party urged the peace-loving countries to declare their condemnation of the Israeli decision and its consequences. The party affirmed that the Israeli decision will affect the peace process which Egypt tries to safeguard.

MUBARAK TO VISIT FRANCE, U.S., FRG IN FEB

NC172248 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 Dec (MENA) -- In Friday's issue the Cairo newspaper AL-AHRAM reports that President Husni Mubarak will make an important tour at the beginning of February that will include France, the United States and West Germany. The paper says that during this 8-day tour President Mubarak will hold important talks with the leaders of the three states on the issue of peace in the Middle East in order to give mementum to the peace process, to achieve security and stability in the area and the need to exert the necessary efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive peaceful solution for all the people of the area.

President Mubarak is scheduled to begin his tour by visiting France on 1 February where he will meet with French President Francois Mitterrand and senior French Government officials. He will then go to the United States on an official 3-day visit during which he will meet with U.S. President Ronald Reagan and senior U.S. officials, including Secretary of State Alexander Haig and Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger. He will also meet with members of the Senate, the House of Representatives and congressional foreign relations committees. On his return from Washington, President Mubarak will pay an official visit to the FRG where he will meet with Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and his Deputy hans-Dietrich Genscher. After this visit, President Mubarak will return to Cairo.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES

Communique No 555

JN171706 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1635 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Dec (INA) -- The Iraqi forces continue to pursue and strike hard at the defeated enemy forces in the Gilan-e Gharb and Sumar regions. Clashes were still in progress when this communique was prepared. A military communique issued by the Iraqi armed forces tonight said that enemy forces in the Gilan-e Gharb and Sumar regions of the central sector have sustained 50 killed and a large number of wounded. The communique added that further details will be announced in subsequent military communiques.

Iraqi forces attacked an enemy force in the Iranian area opposite Panjwin in the northern sector of the operations theater.

The communique said Iranian enemy losses in the past 24 hours amount to 173 dead and 4 vehicles, 1 gun, 1 excavator, 2 stockpiles of hardware and 2 observation posts destroyed. The Iraqi forces' losses were 26 martyrs and 1 mortar damaged. The communique pointed out that military actions raged in other areas -- Dezful, Khafajiyah [Susangerd], Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Mehran, Ahvaz and Shush.

Following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 555 issued by the armed forces general command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Armed with the pride of the immortal forefathers, the grandsons, who are loyal to their principles and the values of their people and nation, continue to fight the forces of the grudge-bearing Khomeyni until they recognize our sovereignty and just right. Following is the outcome of our forces' activities last night and today.

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our valiant units continued to pursue and strike hard at the defeated enemy forces in the Gilan-e Gharb and Sumar regions, killing more than 50 and wounding many others. The clashes were still continuing when this communique was prepared. We will provide you with further details in subsequent communiques.
B. A force of our forward units attacked an enemy force in the Iranian region opposite Panjwin, killing 12 and destroying 2 vehicles and 1 gun.
C. One of our foward units pounded an enemy concentration in the Dezful area, killing 49 and destroying 1 excavator and 1 vehicle.
D. An enemy concentration was sighted in the Khafajiyah area. Our units attacked it with various types of weapons, killing 28 and destroying 1 observation post.
E. One of our units pounded an enemy troop concentration in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area, killing 17.
F. Seven were killed in the Mehran area.
G. Five were killed and one observation post destroyed in the Ahvaz area.
H. Four were killed and one vehicle and two stockpiles of hardware destroyed in the Shush area.
I. One was killed and one observation post destroyed in the Abadan area.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 173 dead and 4 vehicles, 1 gun, 1 excavator, 2 stockpiles of hardware and 2 observation posts destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 26 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One mortar damaged.

Communique No 556

JN171910 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1855 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Dec (INA) -- The Iraqi Armed Forces General Command has announced that enemy losses as a result of the fierce battles Iraqi forces are waging against the Iranian forces in the Gilan-e Gharb and Sumar regions amount to 2,300 dead.

In a new comminque issued this evening, the general command said that many Iranian personnel have been captured and that the Iraqi ground defenses shot down an Iranian fighter plane which was seen exploding in the air.

The communique said that the battles in the Gilan-e Gharb and Sumar regions in the central sector are still continuing. Further details will be broadcast in subsequent communiques.

The Iraqi Armed Forces General Command early this evening said that the Iraqi forces continue to pursue and strike hard at the defeated enemy forces in the aforementioned regions.

Following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 556 issued by the Iraqi armed forces general command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

In addition to our Communique No 555, we have received information from the front indicating that persian enemy losses due to the continuous fiery battles in the Gilan-e Gharb and Sumar regions were well over 2,300 dead, many captured and a fighter plane shot down by our ground defenses. The plane was seen exploding in the air. The battles are still continuing and we will provide you further details in subsequent communiques.

BATTLES CONTINUE IN SUMAR, GILAN-E GHARB

JN180919 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0900 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Dec (INA) -- An INA correspondent in the Gilan-e Gharb and Sumar regions in the northern sector of the front has stated that the Iraqi forces today continued to strike hard at the defeated Iranian enemy's forces there.

He affirmed that at dawn today, the Iranian losses numbered 1,200 dead and large numbers of wounded and captives, in addition to what the Iraqi military communique stated last night on the death of 2,300 Iranian militarymen.

The correspondent saw the bodies of the enemy's dead still on the battleground this morning following the enemy forces' withdrawal to new positions deep within Iranian territories.

The Gilan-e Gharb and Sumar regions have been witnessing violent battles for 1 week, during which the Iraqi forces liquidated whole contingents of the huge Iranian forces which tried to advance toward the Iraqi positions in the two regions.

AL-MAJALLAH SEES IMPROVED SOVIET RELATIONS

PM161653 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 12-18 Dec 81 p 7

[From "AL-MAJALLAH Envoys" Feature]

[Text] According to well-informed Arab sources, there has been a marked improvement in Iraqi-Soviet relations recently, this fact has been reflected in the military field especially.

These sources say that the soviets have supplied Iraq with advanced weapons and military equipment including MiG-27 aircraft. They have also completed an antiaircraft missile network designed to protect Baghdad and other important Iraqi positions against air raids.

The same sources say that Moscow may play the role of mediator in the Iraq-Iran war with the aim of putting an end to it, particularly as Moscow has managed to strengthen its relations with Iran recently.

YAR VICE PRESIDENT ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENT

JN152040 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1955 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Dec (INA) -- YAR Vice President 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani arrived in Baghdad this evening heading a delegation on a visit of several days to Iraq. He was received at the airport by Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister.

In a statement to INA, 'Abd al-Ghani said that his visit is within the strong fraternal ties and the sincere cooperation between the two countries. He said that he will convey the greetings of President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and the YAR Government and people to President Saddam Husayn and the Iraqi Government and people. He said that his visit will be a good opportunity for holding consultations with the brother officials in Iraq on various issues of joint interest and on Arab issues, particularly the Palestinian cause.

The YAR vice president renewed his country's support for Iraq in its just war with the Iranian regime and for the efforts to achieve an end to the war through peaceful means by guaranteeing Iraq's just and legitimate rights. He referred to the killing of Iraqi POW's by the Iranian regime saying that this deed not only shows that Iran is not responding to calls for an end to the war but also proves its insistence to escalate the war and to violate all the Islamic values and the international charters and conventions.

The YAR vice president is accompanied by Minister of State Husayn al-Hubayshi, Minister of Education Ahmad al-Asfahi and a number of senior officials.

Confers With Husayn

JN151042 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Dec (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn this morning received YAR Vice President 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani. Their discussions focused on the latest developments in the Arab region and on cooperation between the two fraternal countries. The YAR official conveyed the greetings of YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and those of the YAR government and people to President Saddam Husayn and the Iraqi Government and people for further progress and victories. The YAR vice president reaffirmed the support of the YAR -- government and people -- for Iraq in its just war against the racist Persian enemy to regain its rights over its land and waters.

The meeting was attended by 'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council [RCC] vice chairman; Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah, RCC secretary general and acting director of the presidential office; and the YAR ambassador in Baghdad.

AD-DUSTUR ON NEED FOR JOINT ARAB ACTION

JN180806 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 18 Dec 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Syria's call for an emergency meeting of the Arab foreign ministers to discuss the necessary measures to confront the Israeli decision on annexing the Golan Heights incontestably confirms what we have previously said and what Jordan has repeatedly announced. There is no alternative to joint Arab action to confront the challenges and no Arab state can dispense with the backing and support of its brothers when it is exposed to any sort of foreign danger.

While supporting the convocation of such a meeting out of our conviction that the Israeli decision on the Golan is a grave challenge to pan-Arab pride and that it is greater than what Syria can deal with unilaterally, we do so out of our awareness of Jordan's consistent policy which considers aggression against any Arab state aggression against the whole Arab nation which does not allow for any delinquency or defeatism for any reason whatsoever.

AD-DUSTUR added: However, the Syrian call for an Arab foreign ministers' meeting raises questions on the feasibility of the Arab reaction to Israel's provocations if this reaction is confined to seasonal meetings and statements of denunciation and condemnation. We regrettably note that the Arabs resort to joint action whenever a misfortune or a calamity befalls them. As soon as they think the danger has been removed or as soon as their attitude toward it cools down, they disperse once again, become disunited, and return to their differences on the debris of Arab solidarity.

We ask: What can the Arab foreign ministers do in the disintegrated and disrupted Arab situation which is permeated by differences? We also ask: What will it be like on the eastern front if Israel takes advantage of the current international situation and launches a military aggression against Syria, something which is likely to happen? Moreover, we ask: What can the Arab states do in support of Syria in the absence of military and political coordination among the Arab states? All these questions clearly indicate the incorrectness of the policy adopted by some Arab states so as to ruin Arab solidarity, deepen Arab differences and block all attempts to purify the Arab atmoshere. They do so by following the policy of depending on some foreign power. The supreme pan-Arab interest is now the victim of this policy and the dignity of all Arabs pays the price.

AD-DUSTUR added: The methods of Arab reaction so far adopted in confronting the Zionist danger have brought to our nation successive woes and defeats. These same methods continue to expose the Arab states, one after the other, to the danger of being swallowed up by the Israeli expansionist policy, which took a new aspect when it went beyond the borders of the so-called Israel's historical land to confiscate a new land outside the framework of Palestine.

The ferocity of the Zionist onslaught and the wildness of the Israeli expansionist aggression make it incumbent on the Arabs to radically reconsider their viewpoint of matters and the way they deal with them. They should follow a new trend unlike all the defunct methods which have been in force since the dawn of independence. They should also lay down a strong basis for a steady and continuous strategy, in which all take part and to which all are committed, in both peace and war.

Concluding, AD-DUSTUR said: The Arab states should give priority to the Zionist danger against the future of the Arabs, bury their difference once and for all and devote their efforts to the confrontation of this imminent danger that threatens all Arab regimes. It is then that Arab meetings will have practical benefits and successful effects on the course of events. It is also then that the Arabs will have their impact on the international level, since they will be respected by friends, feared by the enemy and regarded with due consideration by Israel.

MAJOR HADDAD COMMENTS ON VARIOUS ISSUES

NC152002 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1007 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Speech by free Lebanon commander Maj Sa'd Haddad -- live or recorded; place and date not provided]

[Text] Lebanese brothers: It has been a long time since I have spoken to you frankly from the heart. However, recent events prompt me to address you, in the hope that my words will influence you and guide you in your own good and interest and eventually to the well being of Lebanon.

The first point I would like to speak about is the issue of the hour -- the annexation of the Golan Heights by Israel. First, everyone knows that the Golan plateau has been in Israeli hands since the 1967 war when the Syrians began the war against Israel. Anyway, several attempts were made later on, including the 1973 war, but Syria has failed to regain the Golan Heights. Plans were introduced in the Camp David accords to establish peace in the Middle East. Syria, however, has refused and still refuses all peace plans, aiming to keep the doors of bloodshed open in the Middle East. Syria rejects all peace plans, including Prince Fahd's plan, which is an Arab plan. Thus, who refuses peace must follow the other method -- war. After good intentions were demonstrated by all other parties, Syria met them with rejection and threats of war. Consequently, Israel has the right to adopt what it deems appropriate for its survival. Thus, Israel has annexed the Golan Heights, taking into consideration that the entire Golan population supports this decision, because our brothers in the Druze sect have from the beginning been attached to Israel and believed in Israel's role in the Middle East, both in the Middle East and throughout the world. This has always been the attitude of all Druze brothers, whether in Israel, Lebanon or Syria.

What is Syria's reaction? Syria has announced that the cease-fire with Israel is no longer valid. At the same time, Syria has lodged a complaint with the UN Security Council. All right, Syria claims to head the countries of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, which means that it wants to fight. It is not enough to say that it wants to fight. Syria must support its word by action, because its telling lies for so long will eventually be exposed. Since 1973, we have heard that Syria wants to fight. Today, Syria said that there is no longer a cease-fire. All right, if there is no cease-fire, why do the Syrians keep the UNDOF between Syria and Israel? Why haven't we heard Syria ask the UNDOF to withdraw? Or is Syria using the talk of war for local consumption?

With such rulers, I do not know how long this farce will continue or how long they will be able to mislead their peoples and conceal the facts from them? When will these people wake up and realize that they are being exploited by their rulers? When that time comes, these peoples will destroy hypocrite rulers like Hafiz al-Asad and his henchmen and establish a new regime from among the people and in the people's interest.

Therefore, it is not enough for us to say we want to fight, destroy, liberate and achieve such and such a thing. If you want to fight, here is the battlefield. Otherwise, look for another way to preserve your honor and save your face.

At any rate, we are waiting. We want to see. The saying goes: Follow a liar to his house door. We are waiting for Hafiz al-Asad. We want to see what he can do and how much of a man he is! I hold the view that Hafiz al-Asad, who has accustomed us to lying, hypocrisy and falsehood, will not end his habit. Also, this time he will adopt the same method. If things are as such, then I wonder how the Syrian people can continue to be misled and to remain silent over such a deceptive ruler. I also wonder how in Lebanon we can still find some supporters of such a deceptive ruler. They have believed and continue to believe in him and in his efficacy.

If there was anyone in the Arab states and in the Arab countries who understood things, it was the late Anwar as-Sadat. He understood that war would lead to no result. He took the initiative and opened the book of peace. He carried out an action that has gone down in history. The coming generations will speak of such a gigantic war. May God rest his soul in paradise. He understood that war would produce no result. On the contrary, war would increase the woes of the Arab peoples and of the Arabic-speaking peoples.

We had hoped that Hafiz al-Asad too would understand this. This is particularly true because a few days ago he announced that the balance of power did not favor Syria, but Israel. Therefore, why is he embarking on a quixotic action when he knows he is in a weak position. If he cared for his people, it would have been better for him to join the bandwagon of the area's peace plans.

At any rate, and as we have already said, we will wait and see what will become of the threats uttered by Hafiz al-Asad and his clique. We know that they will do nothing. However, we hope that the people and the Arab and Arabic-speaking peoples will discover and feel tangibly the lies and deception of the 'Alawite rulers of Syria.

We care for the safety of the Syrian people. However, and regrettably, these people are being exploited by their rulers.

We hope that this will be the last time it will be necessary to expose Hafiz al-Asad's real nature and that it will show that he has not been a lion, but a fox since the beginning.

I would like to broach a second topic. Although it does not concern us, sometimes a person must speak. I would like to address our Arabic-speaking peoples who live in the state of Israel -- in the West Bank, Gaza and elsewhere. You are now staging demonstrations and carrying out provocative movements which are disturbing security. Why? Because a swindler called Yasir 'Arafat and his clique are inciting you, deceiving you and telling you that they are working in your interest to restore all your glory.

However, and in fact, you do not know the reality of Yasir 'Arafat and his followers. You are harming yourselves. Can you tell me what swindler No 1 'Arafat and his followers are now doing in the south or in the various parts of Lebanon? What is he doing to help you? Where are the large-scale military operations he is threatening to launch against Israel?

'Arafat's operations are limited to harassing the Lebanese people, evacuating the Lebanese people from southern Lebanon, buying land in southern Lebanon and other areas, and enjoying the money given to him by the oil-rich Arab and Arabic-speaking countries. He makes speeches to incite your enthusiasm, and you become frenzied without thinking and he exploits you.

If you have seen nothing of 'Arafat's alleged heroic military actions, what do you see of the huge sums of money he and his henchmen are receiving? If you get anything, it is very little and not in your interests. He sends this little to agitate you to create trouble or buy explosives, and so on and so forth. He does not send this meager sum to improve your social affairs and lives. On the contrary, he sends it for reasons of sabotage. Thus, the swindlers in Lebanon are enjoying their lives in Lebanon at the expense of the Lebanese people and are setting their roots in Lebanese territory, whereas you are risking your future for a handful of killers, blood-suckers, thieves and exploiters like Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and others.

I ask you to look around you at the surrounding countries. You will see the difference. Look at Syria, where you will see how the regime there is treating native Syrians, let alone the foreigners. The 'Alawite regime is committing big massacres in Syria. It does not allow any foreign information media to report on what is happening. There are horrible massacres being committed mercilessly by the 'Alawite regime against the sons

of its country with a total news blackout so that the outside world will not learn about what is happening. Despite this, the 'Alawite regime claims to be a democratic and free regime.

I do not want to tell you about the Palestinians in Syria because you know that they are shackled and restricted and cannot even wear military uniform inside Syria. Moreover, I do not know if you have forgotten the story about the Black September in Jordan. Jordan claims to be acting in the interest of the swindlers. Have you forgotten the 20,000 of you that the Jordanian regime slayed in black September in 1971 [as heard] I don't believe that you have forgotten. Can you show me where there is freedom or democracy in the Arab world?

Let us assume that Israel looks at what is happening in the Arab and Arabic-speaking countries and tries to emulate and follow their method in dealing with you; that is, let us assume that in dealing with you, Israel gives up democracy and announces that the West Bank and Gaza are military areas and behaves as Syria does, banning any reporting. If any one of you wants to make a statement attacking Israel, Israel will send television and radio correspondents to take pictures and report on anything. But if Israel behaved like Syria, imposed a siege on you, banned any information media from seeing you and did 10 percent of what Syria does to what it calls the Muslim Brotherhood, what would happen to you? I believe that if you continue this course, Israel will be forced to deal with you as the Arab and Arabic-speaking countries deal with their own people. Then you will be the losers.

Do not do these things again. I am addressing these few words to you because I have your interests at heart. I am asking you not to take much heed of the swindlers who are present in Lebanon. This is because their sole preoccupation is to exploit others, accrue illicit wealth and trade in others' blood. Do not be deceived by the speeches of Swindler No 1 Abu 'Ammar, because his speeches are solely meant for local consumption and for throwing mud in your eyes and the eyes of the other misled followers, be they in Lebanon or elsewhere.

I also hope that perhaps you have learned the lesson of what happened at the Fes summit conference. Prince Fahd was then unnerved and told him: Abu 'Ammar, you are a man without principles. Recently, you supported Saudi Arabia. Now, you are denying this support and objecting. Anyway, you are a man without principles and you are interested in money. Anyway, we are above money. If you want, I will now sign a check for you. Do not be afraid, Saudi Arabia will continue to give you money.

Could there be a worse disgrace? Mr Abu 'Ammar did not take exception because he is a lowly person, he cares about money. He is a depraved person, which is why he accepted this disgrace cheerfully. He was on the verge of telling Prince Fahd: Sign the check for me, now.

Anyway, we give you brotherly advice for the sake of God. If you heed this advice, it will be for your own good. If you do not heed it, you will later say: By God, this stranger advised us, but we did not listen to him. This was advice.

Point number three is as follows: All the Lebanese are now aware that regardless of how much self-styled rulers and self-styled diplomats claim that they, through diplomatic means, will restore Lebanon's unity and independence, they will not succeed. Nor will these persons be able to establish a purely Lebanese Army working for the sake of Lebanon, the sovereignty of Lebanon and the independence of Lebanon.

For this reason, we find out that, having discovered this fact and having tangibly felt it, many military men are joining the Free Lebanese Army. The reason is that they know that the Free Lebanese Army is the sole legitimate army which is righteously, truthfully and faithfully working for Lebanon. Therefore, they are joining this army in groups and as individuals -- and they hail from the various Lebanese sects. We here welcome them and appreciate them their patriotic feelings.

However, in some instances, some rash persons prompted out of their patriotism come to us. However, and regrettably, they are still not their own masters and their mothers still control them. They come to us, but later we find that their mothers also come here, begin to cry and so on. We then send them back with their mothers.

Therefore, I beseech every military man or civilian who decides to join free Lebanon or the Free Lebanese Army to establish the fact that he is his own master before joining us. Let him consult this mother and father before he comes to us. Then, he can join us. This is because -- and I tell you frankly -- our life is not easy. It is difficult and it involves austerity and danger. However, it also offers honor, respect and dignity. This life also has a goal -- one of preserving Lebanon and recovering Lebanon's independence.

Therefore, again I welcome all of those who join us, but on the condition that they are of age and they are their own masters. We do not want their mothers and grandmothers to come wailing. The reason is we are very busy. We have no time to argue with women, telling them: Why did he come to begin with? Why did you fail to convince him not to come, and so on. We say these things while reminding these people that the mothers who do such a thing are firstly mistaken. This is because the future of the army rests with the Free Lebanese Army. The reason is that, God willing, soon it will become the legitimate army of all of Lebanon. The second reason is that this matter shows that mothers and fathers are opportunists who consider Lebanon only a milk cow. They send their son to enlist in the army only to receive a salary. Life is not solely about money. I believe that every compatriot under the present difficult circumstances who fails to sacrifice himself or his children for Lebanon's sake does not deserve to bear Lebanese nationality. Such a compatriot is an exploiter. He is a submissive citizen who disgraces the Lebanese people. He is a disgrace and also a burden for the Lebanese people and for Lebanon.

Also frankly speaking, I now address the officers of the Lebanese Army. I ask you: What are you doing? Is life only receiving a salary, enjoying ourselves and wearing starred eapulettes? Here we are fighting for the sake of all of you. We stand in need of help from all Lebanese, particularly the help of the officers who have received military training and who are knowledgeable in military affairs, which supposedly should be used in Lebanon's favor. I ask you to share in the sacrifice and to join the Free Lebanese Army to prove that you rightly took the oath for the sake of Lebanon and that you are honoring this oath through your actions and sacrifices for the sake of Lebanon.

I tell you this frankly: We need young officers so that we can complete our march together. We can complete the march alone. However, if you will come, it will still be better and it will enable the Lebanese people to fulfill their objective; that is, liberating Lebanon and restoring full Lebanese sovereignty over all Lebanese territory at a quicker pace.

I hope that you will understand what I mean and act accordingly, because it is not enough to sit down in Sidon, Tyre, Al-Yarzah or Tripoli and say: We support Major Haddad and his group with all our hearts, but we are not ready to make sacrifices with them. It is not enough for you to say: When Major Haddad comes to us, we will join him. I am telling you, come here and we will go together. But to remain where you are and be afraid for your material and Arab future is disgraceful and not befitting officers. I do not want officers with such thoughts. I want real, genuine officers who believe in Lebanon.

I would now like to say a word to all the Lebanese in general and to the Lebanese in free Lebanon in particular. You know our principle is that Lebanon is for all its sons. For this reason we have said let us forget the past. Many Lebanese have been deceived in several ways. However, after 7 years of struggle, the Lebanese people have discovered that they were wrong and misled. We forgave all Lebanese and allowed them to return home provided that they are truly sincere to free Lebanon, to the sons of their country and neighbors and to the Lebanese cause.

As you know, we are doing the impossible to establish an ideal homeland with order, discipline, rights and equality. In return, we want loyality from every citizen in free Lebanon. As we are very lenient and tolerant, I announce at the same time that I will never tolerate anyone who has any relationship with the swindlers or the enemies of Lebanon. Although we are tolerant, we can be hard and will never show any leniency in such affairs. We have the means to discover anyone dealing with the swindlers or enemies, whether in free Lebanon or anywhere in occupied Lebanon.

These days we hear and read in the newspapers that they will extend the UNIFIL mandate in southern Lebanon and that Lebanon insists that unless UN Resolution 425 is applied or else it does not want the UNIFIL mandate extended. This time Lebanon is more resolved about this because, as it says, the Arab countries at the Fes Summit supported Resolution 425 and asked for its implementation. But who listens to the Arab countries? Lebanon is like the story of the wretched poor young peasant who did not see the king's daughter but heard that she was beautiful and rich. He went to his father and told him that he had decided to marry the king's daughter and that because he loved her she had to marry him. His neighbors nodded and said that the young man wanted to marry the king's daughter.

Is it important what the nomad Arabs said? When did these nomadic Arabs carry any weight? What counts is what we say. We are the parties concerned. We accept the application of Resolution 425 when all of Lebanon is liberated. We accept application to start from the capital, Beirut. If you do not want to extend the UNIFIL mandate, then do not. We will not be angry. On the contrary, we will be happy. We hope that Shafiq al-Wazzan will insist on his statement and ask for the withdrawal of UNIFIL from southern Lebanon, because this will be in our interest and in the interest of all the Lebanese people.

This is all that I wanted to talk to you about and I hope that my words will find their way to your hearts and be turned into positive actions in the interest of Lebanon. Long may you live and long live sovereign and independent Lebanon.

SKAF DENOUNCES ISRAELI DECISION ON GOLAN

NC171915 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Among the reactions to Israel's decision on the Golan, Defense Minister Joseph Skaf today said: The Israeli decision on the Golan is a blatant hostile stand. Israel has accustomed us to similar stands. We must confront such recurrent actions with Arab solidarity aimed at compelling Israel to respect the simplest international norms and laws by exerting pressure on the states which help and support Israel.

Skaf added: We must recall what Lebanon has and is still calling for, namely, the need to agree on a unified Arab strategy to confront the joint Arab questions. The unification of the Arab stand constitutes a pressing force which the world cannot ignore. If the Arabs remain in a state of fragmentation, Israel will not be content with its aggression of annexing the Golan, but will also annex other Arab lands.

ISRAELI FORCE INFILTRATES UN LINES IN SOUTH

NC180919 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] In the south, an Israeli commando force, together with a group of armed men from the border strip, infiltrated the UN forces observation lines up to Yatir township in the central sector. The force dynamited the house of Muhammad Yusuf 'Abbadi, destroying it. A number of adjacent houses, including the houses of Amin Muhammad Nasrallah and Muhammad Amin Nasrallah, were damaged as a result, but none of the township residents was hurt. The Israeli force then returned, following the track paths leading to the southern border. A number of Yatir residents have met with UNIFIL officers to protest the fact that they had not intervened to prevent the infiltration.

FURTHER REACTION TO ISRAEL'S DECISION ON GOLAN

Information Minister's Remarks

NC171941 Doha QNA in English 1815 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Damascus, 17 Dec (QNA) -- Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar today said that Israel, by is decision to annex the Golan, was violating the disengangement agreement with Syria concluded in 1974 although Syria was still committed to it.

He told newsman in a press conference here that the Israeli decision on the Syrian Golan stresses the aggressive tendency of Israel and pushes the area anew towards the abyss of war.

Syria, he declared, has repeatedly announced that it would be exerting its utmost without excluding the possibility to defend her right to her own territories and to liberating the occupied lands. He further said that the political struggle by his country at present in the face of the Israeli measure is part of Syrian efforts to stem the Israeli aggressive and expansionist thrust.

Asked on the timing of the Israeli decision, Iskandar said that the Israeli enemy is constantly seizing opportunities, and the present Arab situation, coupled with international tensions and the unlimited support it receives from imperialism, constituted a real opportunity for Israel to continue its expansionist acts.

Asked to comment on the American stand vis-a-vis the latest Israeli decision, the Syrian information minister said that American statements on this point in particular were fairly good. But we have to wait until after the Security Council debate on the question, he told reporters. [Doha QNA in Arabic at 2025 GMT on 17 December, in a report on the press conference, renders this paragraph as follows: "Referring to the U.S. stand on the latest Israeli decision, Iskandar Ahmad said: 'U.S. statements on this point in particular were satisfactory but not the U.S. stand in general. We have to wait for the end of the UN Security Council debate to judge the situation.'"]

We expect everybody in the Security Council debate to be beside the United Nations resolutions, to be beside right and justice and to ratify the draft resolution forwarded by Syria, he elaborated.

Asked if he was pessimistic as regards the outcome of this debate, he said that world reactions, including West Europe's reaction on the Israeli decision, were good. [The Arabic version adds the following: "Asked about Syria's present strategy on Arab solidarity, Iskandar said that it is a basic principle of Syrian policy to always maintain Arab solidarity. He emphasized that Syria is making every effort to strengthen Arab solidarity.

"Asked if it is possible for Syria to recognize Israel, Iskandar said that the contrary should be asked. The proper question should be: Will Israel recognize that a Palestinian people exists who have rights, an identity and a cause, and will Israel recognize that the Arab countries surrounding Palestine have a right to their borders?"]

Monte Carlo Radio Report

JN171758 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1710 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] It seems that Damascus has a thousand apprehensions on any provocation into which it might be dragged, particularly in the current international situation. Our correspondent in Damascus Louis Faris reports on the Syrian stand:

[Begin recording] Syria today asked officially for the convening of an emergency Arab League Council meeting at foreign ministers level to discuss Israel's decision to annex the Golan and adopt a unified Arab stand in this respect. While this request was made public, Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad held a press conference in his office, attended by Arab and foreign correspondents.

The Syrian minister announced that Syria still abides by the provisions of the agreement on the disengagement of forces on the Golan which was concluded through the United States in June 1974. This statement by the Syrian minister was in reply to a question on whether Syria would adopt military measures to confront those which Israel had adopted on its northern borders, coinciding with its provocation of Syria. The minister, however, added that this does not mean that Syria will not take the appropriate precautions to confront any eventuality. The minister added that Syria still believes that Israel has violated Resolution 338 and the cease-fire agreement concluded in 1973.

Minister Iskandar added: We always expect an enemy such as Israel to carry out acts of aggression. We are not warmongers but when a war is imposed on us, we defend ourselves with courage and without any hesitation. He made threats by saying: In such a case, Syrian mothers will not be the only ones to weep.

On the UN Security Council meetings, the minister of information said that Syria had asked for the implementation of Chapter 7 which stipulates the imposition of sanctions. He added: This is what is under discussion, this is what is required, despite the fact that it has not been explicitly stated.

On the nature of sanctions, the Syrian minister said that it is premature to speak about them because what is required now from the UN Security Council is to condemn the Israeli decision, to consider it cancelled and ask Israel to cancel this decision, pointing out that the United States can help in adopting such a resolution. The question of sanctions will not be discussed unless Israel rejects the resolutions after it is issued. We expect this as Israel has accustomed us to such rejections. The Syrian minister pointed out that Israel had previously tried to annex the Golan. That's why it saw no need this time for pretexts and new justifications for this aggressive measure. Particularly since the Israelis adopted the decision and ratified it in 3 hours while Begin was still in his wheelchair.

The minister was asked about the possibilities and probabilities of Syria's recognizing Israel. He replied by correcting the question and rephrasing it: The question is: Does Israel recognize that there is a Palestinian people who have a clear cause and does Israel recognize that the Arab countries which surround it have a right to recognized borders? The problem with Israel is that it always avoids having permanent recognized borders. [end recording]

IPU Asked To Expel Israel

JN171719 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] The Syrian Arab parliamentary branch has informed the Secretariat General of the Arab Parliamentary Union and the IPU of the decisions of the People's Assembly adopted in a special session it held yesterday evening under Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi, which was devoted to the discussion of the expansionist measures Israel has adopted by annexing the Syrian Arab territories in the Golan Heights. The most important of these decisions is the one which considers the law issued by the Zionist Knesset null and void and the party which issued it not legitimate because the so-called Israeli parliament violates the third article of the charter of the IPU, as this parliament holds its meetings on land which does not belong to it but is the property of Arab Jerusalem.

The parliamentary branch called on the IPU to review the Israeli Knesset membership and expel it from the IPU. It also called on world parliamentary branches to support this Syrian stand and to work toward cancelling this unjust and expansionist Zionist law.

Turkish Denunciation

JN171500 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1435 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Damascus, 17 Dec (SANA) -- Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm received here today Turkish Justice Minister Cevdet Mentes. Syrian Justice Minister Khalid al-Maliki and the Turkish ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting.

The Turkish minister conveyed the greetings of the Turkish prime ministers, expressing pleasure at the positive outcome of his talks with Syrian officials on developing judicial relations between Syria and Turkey.

The Turkish minister asserted that the Turkish Government denounces the Israeli aggressive decision on the Golan and supports Syria in defending its rights.

The prime minister expresses satisfaction with the outcome of the Syrian-Turkish talks, expressing appreciation for Turkey's support for Syria's stand against the Israeli aggressive policy. The prime minister asked the guest minister to convey his greetings to his Turkish counterpart.

ATH-THAWRAH Commentary

JN180951 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0850 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Damascus, 18 Dec (SANA) -- Today's ATH-THAWRAH stressed that Israel is leading the region toward a comprehensive explosion, imagining that the circumstances are anemable for the implementation of its new aggressive step.

In a commentary entitled "The Annexation Decision Is a Step Toward a Wider Aggression," the paper added: By claiming that the Israeli forces' preparations in the north are aimed at deterring any Syrian attempt to open fire, terrorist Sharon cannot conceal the new aggressive step which Israel began by its annexation decision and later on by its military concentrations and terrorist threats and allegations.

The paper said: Within the framework of preparing for a new aggressive Zionist step, David Levi, deputy of terrorist Begin, said that Syria is waiting for an adequate opportunity to destroy Israel and that it is preparing for war. In this regard, the paper referred to foreign minister Shamir's statement that the annexation decision was adopted at the proper time, making reference to the prevailing atmosphere in the Arab homeland.

The paper added that the enemy leaders ignored the basic fact that Syria's steadfastness and determination to confront and carry out its historic pan-Arab role in liberating the territory and wrenching rights stem from a strategic, and not a tactical stand and that the various forms and means of pressure and aggression used against Syria only increase its firmness and faith in the need to prepare for the attainment of victory.

The paper stressed that the liberation cause is our main preoccupation and that our serious and continuous steps to pool all available Arab potentials will not stop because we believe in the need to deter the danger threatening security and peace in the region and the whole world.

TISHRIN Commentary

JN180750 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 18 Dec 81

[From the press review]

[Text] In a commentary entitled "Syria Places the International Community Face to Face With Its Responsibilities," TISHRIN says: The world is used to Israeli piracy. However, Begin's last piracy -- the annexation of the occupied Golan at a time when complicated and very grave international circumstances prevail -- has exceeded all bounds.

The Zionist prime minister attaches no importance to any international considerations, whether they are significant or not. In fact, he takes advantage of every opportunity to achieve the Zionist dream: the establishment of greater Israel at the Arab people's expense. Thus he is not concerned about peace either today or tomorrow, just as he was never concerned about peace yesterday. Indeed, he never misses an opportunity to strike at regional peace prospects, however dim such prospects may be, since he is convinced that Israel and peace do not go together.

TISHRIN affirms that Begin's justifications failed to cover up the Israeli piracy that was manifested by the decision to annex the Golan. There was a worldwide move to denounce this grave procedure -- which threatens world peace at a time when the loyal are aspiring to safeguard this peace. Despite all the international circumstances and complexities, the international arena has probably never witnessed such an overwhelming move, a move which strongly advocates Syria's firm and responsible stand -- which demands that Israel cancel its procedure without delay, thus proceeding from the premise of respect for international law and UN Security Council resolutions and allowing a just peace to have a chance to be established in the Middle East.

Third World and socialist bloc states strongly back Syria's stand. The 10 West European states see the Knesset's procedure as basically null and void, since it constitutes a blatant violation of international law and UN Security Council resolutions and wrecks peace endeavors in the region. The United States said that it was also taken by surprise, adding that it was not consulted in the first place because it essentially objects to the annexation decision.

TISHRIN adds: Observers now focus attention on Washington, since if it was adopted by one side as stated, then the Israeli decision is considered a violation of the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement and that puts the U.S. Government in a very difficult position, since this decision constitutes a blatant attack on international law and UN Security Council resolutions and wrecks all short and long-term prospects for peace in the Middle East.

The decision also proves the soundness of the Syrian stand and the Zionist state's expansionist and aggressive nature and its utter rejection of all solutions for establishing a just peace. The paper adds: Syria, which has placed the international community face to face with its responsiblities, asks for the safeguarding of international law, no more and no less. Thus, it will show absolutely no negligence in defending its territory and sovereignty.

Syria is no easy prey easily be taken by surprise, as Begin and Tel Aviv's pirates believe. The Syrian reply will measure up to the level of the Zionist challenge just as it always has.

GDR'S KLEIBER CONCLUDES VISIT TO DAMASCUS

Meets Al-Asad, Talas

JN161415 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Text] At 1230 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Mr Guenther Kleiber, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, and Mr Clausnitzer, deputy minister of the GDR Ministry for Foreign Trade.

The meeting was attended by Mr 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, and Dr Reinhard Escherich, GDR ambassador in Damascus.

Gen Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the army and the armed forces and defense minister, met at 1000 today with Mr Guenther Kleiber and his delegation.

The meeting was attended by the GDR ambassador in Damascus and the military attache at the embassy.

General Talas welcomed the visiting delegation, affirming that cooperation will continue to be developed and relations deepened between the two friendly states. Mr Kleiber reiterated his country's stand alongside Syria. He condemned the Israeli decision to annex the Golan, considering this an aggressive act and one of the deceitful fruits of U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation.

More on Al-Asad Meeting

JN161620 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1505 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Text] Damascus, 16 Dec (SANA) -- At 1230 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Guenther Kleiber, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, and Clausnitzer, deputy minister of the GDR Ministry for Foreign Trade.

The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, and Dr Reinhard Escherich, GDR ambassador in Damascus.

Kleiber delivered a message to President Al-Asad from Erich Honecker, chairman of the GDR State Council, on the situation in Europe and on bilateral relations. President Al-Asad asked Kleiber to convey a reply message to the GDR State Council chairman in which he explained the situation in the region, particularly the recent Israeli aggression represented by Israel's decision to apply Israeli law in the occupied Syrian Arab territories.

Cooperation Agreements Signed

JN172014 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, and Guenther Kleiber, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, held a meeting today attended by the minister of supply and internal trade and the minister of state for planning affairs. On the GDR side, the meeting was attended by the deputy minister of planning and industry. The two sides discussed economic and scientific relations between the two friendly countries and the results achieved by the technical committees which had discussed the multifaceted cooperation between the two countries.

Afterward, an agreement was signed defining the scope of scientific and technical cooperation between the two friendly countries. They also signed cooperation protocols which have been reached by the joint economic committee. The assistant minister of state for planning affairs and his GDR counterpart also signed a cooperation agreement between the two countries' planning commissions.

Departs 17 Dec

JN171348 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Guenther Kleiber, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, left Damascus this afternoon at the end of his visit to Syria.

In a predeparture statement, Kleiber expressed his satisfaction with the outcome of his talks with Syrian officials.

HUNGARIAN CHIEF OF STAFF CONCLUDES VISIT

Meets Al-Asad

JN161559 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1455 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Text] Damascus, 16 Dec (SANA) -- This afternoon, President Hafiz al-Asad received Lt Gen Istvan Olah, first deputy defense minister and chief of staff of the Hungarian Army, who conveyed to him greetings from Janos Kadar, first secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, and Pal Losonczi, president of the Hungarian People's Republic Presidential Council.

The meeting was attended by Gen Hikmat ash-Shihabi, chief of staff of the army and the armed forces; and Hungarian Ambassador to Syria Zoltan Zsigmond.

Discussion focused on the situation in the Middle East and Europe. President al-Asad explained the situation that has emerged as a result of the Israeli aggressive action of implementing Israeli law on the occupied Syrian Arab territories.

Lt Gen Istvan Olah stressed his country's solidarity with Syria and its support for Syria's just struggle.

At the end of the meeting, President al-Asad asked the Hungarian guest to convey his greetings to Comrade Janos Kadar and to President Losonczi.

Leaves 17 Dec

JN171516 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1450 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Damascus, 17 Dec (SANA) -- Lt Gen Istvan Olah, first deputy prime minister and chief of staff of the Hungarian Army, and his accompanying delegation, left Damascus this morning at the end of a visit to Syria that lasted several days.

He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Gen Hikmat ash-Shihabi, chief of staff of the army and the armed forces; Maj Gen 'Ali Aslan, deputy chief of staff for operations and training affairs; ranking offiers; the Hungarian ambassador in Damascus; and embassy staff.

SYRIA, USSR SIGN PROTOCOL ON DAM PROJECTS

JN171023 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0830 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Damascus, 17 Dec (SANA) -- Syria and the Soviet Union have signed a protocol for the implementation of projects on the northern An-Nahr al-Kabir, the exploitation of the water basins in Syria and the regulation of the water flow of the Syrian rivers Al-Basrah and (Al-A'waj).

The protocol was signed on the Syrian side by Eng 'Adnan Ibrahim, director of the general authority for the major projects; and on the Soviet side by Serafim Aleksandrovich Ivanov, chief of the main administration for irrigation construction in foreign countries.

The two sides agreed that the major plans for the aforementioned dam will be implemented in the middle of next year. This dam is expected to irrigate 14,000 hectares of land.

In accordance with this protocol, the Soviet side pledged to dispatch the first team of Soviet experts to Syria before the end of December to begin work on the project.

VOL REPORTS BATTLES IN ALEPPO, HAMAH

NC161910 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Text] Reports from Aleppo and Hamah speak of continuing battles between the Syrian special forces and the Muslim Brotherhood and of scores of dead and wounded on both sides.

Reports received by the Voice of Lebanon indicate that last Monday the town of Aleppo was the scene of intensive Syrian military movements -- particularly in the Bab An-Nayrab and Al-Amsal quarters, which are being encircled by soldiers and where a curfew has been imposed. These two quarters were the scene of fighting among the houses and on their roofs which resulted in the deaths of 10 special forces soldiers and the destruction of a number of buildings in which scores of civilians died.

The atmosphere in Aleppo is still fraught with anxiety because of the continuing battles between the army and the Muslim Brotherhood. The communists -- who are in league with the Muslim Brotherhood -- have threatened to continue their opposition against the authorities.

For 5 days now the city of Hamah has been cut off from the rest of Syria. The army has encircled it and established military posts around it in the wake of the recent clashes and the renewal of clashes in some quarters which have led to many dead and wounded among both the soldiers and the Muslim Brotherhood.

Reports from the Syrian-Iraqi border speak of tension there since the attack against the Iraqi Embassy in Beirut.

AL-BA'TH HITS PLAN TO DEMILITARIZE S. LEBANON

PM151009 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 7 Dec 81 p 12

[Jubarah al-Barghuti article: "Israel Delegates America To Achieve Its Expansionist Aims"]

[Excerpts] Zionist leader Ben-Gurion once said: It is not necessary for Israeli soldiers to be in Arab capitals for Israel to achieve its desired domination in the area and expand at the area's expense.

The agent regime in Cairo has implemented Ben-Gurion's idea in part of the Arab homeland. This is the danger posed by the capitulationist course which has become the policy of those ruling Egypt and the Egyptian people.

Since Israel has managed to open the gates to Egypt it has, through the dead As-Sadat and his successor Mubarak, been able to expand to Sudan in the hope of penetrating Africa and, through it, the African Arab countries.

As the Zionist entity's loving mother, the United States decided to play Israel's role in the Arab east and achieve Israel's objectives for it, according to Ben-Gurion's dictum and on the pretext of U.S. friendship with the Arabs.

But U.S. policy came up against the Syrian wall of steadfastness, though it has been able to circumvent the wall under the guise of interests, friendships, and the defense of the area against a danger of its own invention called the Soviet danger.

But the United States is still unable to penetrate the wall that Arab Syria represents and therefore it has resorted to a new stage of policy, sometimes through Philip Habib's "trips" and at other times through preparations for a possible military action by Israel.

The United States and Israel do not tire of proposing alternatives. The recommendation made by the U.S. envoy regarding stationing U.S. forces in southern Lebanon to protect that stooge Sa'd Haddad in the border strip and to fulfill Israel's desire to occupy more Arab territory would be a continuation of the U.S. occupation of Sinai on behalf of Israel.

U.S. advocates, whether Americans themselves or conspirators working with them, tried to sell the U.S. ambassador's proposal as something that would save Lebanon from the danger of continued Israeli attacks on it and its people.

But the fact is that Lebanon, which is a major part of the Arab homeland on the Mediterranean, rejects this piece of American hypocrisy just as it rejects the Phalangists' advocacy of a partitioned Lebanon withdrawn from the Arab circle.

As usual, the United States never tires of proposing new alternatives. It is now, through its envoy Philip Habib, submitting on behalf of Israel a plan for neutralizing Lebanon by disarming its people and their partners in defending Lebanon's honor -- the fighters of the Palestinian revolution.

So, this proposal cannot have come on the spur of the moment, nor is it a result of U.S.-Zionist consultations. It is part of a series of U.S. proposals that first and foremost seek to breach the Arab will of steadfastness, particularly since Lebanon represents the "flank" of the Syrian Arab region, vanguard of steadfastness and defiance in the face of well-planned and systematic conspiracies.

Israel is well aware that Ben-Gurion's dictum is bound to tail so long as Arab Syria constitutes the security belt for the Arab east as far as the Gulf.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM AUSTRIA'S KREISKY

JN171802 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1745 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Damascus, 17 Dec (SANA) -- President Hafiz al-Asad today received a written message from Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky.

BRIEFS

FRENCH AMBASSADOR DEPARTS -- Damascus, 17 Dec (SANA) -- President Hafiz al-Asad today received French ambassador Fernando Rouillon, who came to bid farewell at the end of his term as ambassador in Syria. [Text] [Damascus SANA in Arabic 1430 GMT 17 Dec 81 JN]

PERES INTERVIEWED ON GOLAN ISSUE, LABOR PARTY

TA161654 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1410 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Studio interview with Shim'on Peres, chairman of the Labor Party, by correspondents Yitzhaq Golan, 'Uzi Benziman and Razi Barqay -- live]

[Excerpts] [Question] On the Golan Heights Law endorsed in the Knesset, disregarding how it was adopted, is it acceptable to you in principle?

[Answer] No.

[Question] Why?

[Answer] One must ascertain how the situation today is different from that which existed before the law's adoption. Something was bettered, something else worsened. The question is whether the things we wanted to improve were improved, and whether the things we wanted to worsen, their worsening has been avoided. [as heard] I will explain now without formulas. We have until now been sitting on the Golan Heights and could do whatever we wanted: we could fortify the region, establish settlements in it, pave roads, even apply laws to it. We were not prevented from doing anything. The world was sitting by, silent. Actually, the Golan Heights were understood by all to be an inseparable part of Israel, a strategic requirement over which it would not pay to harass Israel. Now Israel comes along with this action. Where is the improvement? Perhaps in the feelings of the residents -- I am also analyzing this, trying to decide whether this is an improvement or not. Nonetheless we turned the Golan Heights into an international controversy, into something that is disputed.

The issue will be brought to the UN Security Council, and we assume they will not decide on sanctions. But will they decide that we have to descend from the Golan Heights? The Americans, too, will vote for this. So, what have we gained?

Before, ours was an exceptionally good international situation, as nowhere else, unchallenged by anyone -- of course, I am not talking about the Arab side. Now we have come and raised the issue to the agenda; and country after country, institution after institution.... [unfinished sentence as heard] What have we gained? Now the residents can think: Finally the Government of Israel has undertaken a commitment. The question remains: Is a commitment undertaken by a government headed by Mr Begin indeed binding? Just as Mr Begin came from the hospital to the Knesset, within a few hours he decided to apply the law, so he also came from Camp David and within a few hours decided that the settlements must be evacuated. How is this commitment so trustworthy? What has been so improved?

[Question] But, Mr Peres, it is no secret that in the Labor Party...

[Answer, interrupting] Are you talking about the Golan Heights or about the Labor Party?

[Question] No, I want to return to your objection to the law in principle. There was a lobby for applying the law among your party colleagues. Why did you not prevent this lobby? By your very silence you gave approval to the action.

[Answer] Excuse me, to which country do you belong? You belong to Israel, do you not? Israel is a democratic country. There are two legitimate views in the Labor Party. Nobody has concealed them, and I am not ashamed of them. People of every opinion are entitled to try to persuade the majority; and they must be given the opportunity for such action as long as we are a democratic country. Was that a secret? Did we hide it under the table? There are two or three views in the Labor Party over many issues. The minority is entitled to struggle to become a majority; and the majority, once it makes a decision, obligates one and all. So what is the question here, what is the secret?

[Question] What you are saying regards the Labor Party; we saw that the majority was not obligated in the Knesset vote. But this is not what I want to ask you. Do you think....

[Answer, interrupting] Just a moment. I want to address you 'Uzi. Seriously, such an important subject cannot be brushed aside. You know that within the Likud there are people who oppose the law, and their voices have not been heard at all. In your opinion, is this better? There were people in the Labor Party who did not submit to the majority, and measures must be taken against them. If there is no common denominator and no discipline, not even a voluntary party can be maintained. But what kind of a show is this, when the prime minister comes in the morning, summons the Cabinet, and everyone concurs? Where were they up till now?

[Question] Except for Minister Berman.

[Answer] I do not know. It was reportedly unanimous. Then within an hour or two, in the Knesset, the whole faction votes unanimously. This frightens me. I prefer a democratic debate; and the media are doing a disservice in turning this [Labor Party behavior] into a shameful act. Pretty soon it will be considered a shame if there are two or three views in Israel, and if a democratic and legitimate debate occurs.

[Question] As we want to discuss the matter at hand, I would like to ask you: In your opinion, should the Golan be a part of Israel or not?

[Answer] Yes.

[Question] So why are you against the law?

[Answer] I oppose the application of the law because, first, it is unnecessary. It does not add anything to us. Second, because I want -- formally as well as informally -- to have an option of a territorial compromise, be it merely cosmetic or just a pinch, because this improves Israel's status in the world. I prefer for Al-Asad to say he wants to destroy us and annihilate us, that he does not want compromises; and we shall say that we do want a compromise, be it only 1 centimeter. This is wiser, shrewder. Why is that law needed? I think the Golan Heights are an inseparable part of Israel; the Syrians want to destroy us. All is well. The question is, what is the debate about? The debate is not about the Golan Heights, but about international public opinion about the Golan Heights, because on the Golan Heights nobody is preventing you from doing anything you wish so how is this a debate about the Golan Heights? And if you had an international situation in which the Syrians said no, and you said, good and well, and then Mr Shamir appeared, almost ridiculously, saying: Guess what, the Golan Heights are also negotiable after the decision was adopted -- then do you know what? Tomorrow the Syrians will come, just as the Egyptians came, and they will say: Let us negotiate. I do not know what the government's position will be.

[Question] Mr Peres, you are speaking about the impact this law will have on international public opinion and this, I understand, bothers you most. Several months ago, when the Jerusalem Law was adopted -- a law for which, by the way, you voted -- the opponents also claimed that this law aligned the whole world against us. Embassies were vacated -- who remembers this? There were protests -- who remembers those?

[Answer] First of all, one may forget everything, this is a democratic privilege. But why should I forget that embassies were vacated? You know, President Reagan sits with a Jewish representation and says Jerusalem should be united; he does not even finish speaking, and his men -- on his behalf -- deny this. Also, we did put the matter of Jerusalem on the agenda to a certain degree, and on that matter there is really a consensus that was adopted. The fact that we adopted a decision on Jerusalem once more.... [unfinished sentence as heard]

[Question] The unequivocal message, for example, to the Syrian president is that his refusals cost him dearly.

[Answer] I do not understand.

[Question] You are asking a rhetorical question, how will this benefit us? The Cabinet claims it will benefit us.

[Answer, interrupting] Excuse me, the cost to Al-Asad is cheap. He is suddenly gaining international support that he previously lacked. A decision will be adopted at the Security Council, the benefit of which he has not previously had. The United States is issuing denouncements, which it did not do earlier. France is in a dither, unlike before. He did profit. What did we profit?

[Question] Mr Peres, there are people who claim that had the Alignment governments applied the Israeli law to the areas of Yamit and Ofira, it may well be that those regions would have remained within Israel. What do you think of this?

[Answer] In my opinion, this has no real foundation. Even Mr Begin said that security frontiers are necessary. Mr Begin also said he would live in Ne'ot Sinay. I do not want to bring to mind other people. They have said whatever they said. Mr Begin, on the eve of his departure for Camp David told me he had no intention to concede that area. Does it make any difference whether one states or writes?

[Question] Yes, apparently this is important to him, and this is exactly the difference. You are saying you think the Golan should be a part of Israel, but you are unwilling to translate this into formal political or official legal language. So what is the meaning of the assertion that the Golan is part of Israel? And another question in the same context: To what extent are you representing your party's stand in this matter?

[Answer] First of all, in respect to the first question: It was written in the Likud platform that the boundary must cross through Sinai, and we must not return to the 1967 borders. So what is so important in the fact that this was written? Now, I would apply the law, if this were not also linked to harm. But I must ask myself a simple question: What is better, that we talk among ourselves and lose support from a large part of the public opinion, or that we perpetuate -- there are, after all, no pro-forma decisions in the world -- the state in which we have more or less the silent consent of the entire world, without making declarations.

[Question] On this point, you said yesterday that the prime minister had misled you. That prior to your departure to the United States he undertook to shelve the motion...

[Answer] He quoted me, I made no allegations against the prime minister that he had misled me or not. I did not say that. I said I met with the prime minister on Thursday morning, asking him how they would vote in the Knesset regarding the proposal of MK Ge'ula Kohen to apply the law. He said they would vote to remove this motion from the agenda.

[Question] But he did not pledge the same should the Cabinet propose this bill.

[Answer] Does the problem concern who the proposer is? That is to say, if Ge'ula Kohen proposes it, this is harmful; but if Begin proposes it, it is harmless? Mrs Ge'ula Kohen also proposed the Jerusalem law and Mr Begin voted in favor. I did not even entertain the possibility of asking about this difference. Is it important who proposes, or is it important what is being proposed?

[Question] It seems to be important to the prime minister.

[Answer] So it seems.

[Question] Mr Peres, you are saying that your parliamentary reaction will be a motion of nonconfidence in the Cabinet. Has this already been agreed upon?

[Answer] No, this issue has not been discussed yet. In my view, we are defending in Israel also democracy, not just soil. I think if Israel belittles -- in theory and more importantly, in fact -- democratic procedures, it will be a weaker country. Not only because I approve of democracy, and not only because I think that democracy is valuable per se; but gradually democracy looks like a performance; sometimes like a matinee, sometimes like an evening show, a ceremony.

[Question] You are talking of belittling democracy. I understand you mean the law was passed too quickly, without allowing a debate among yourselves. But we remember a government headed by the Alignment which, if one can say so, quickly annexed east Jerusalem.

[Answer] You are mistaken in one thing. That was not an Alignment government, it was a government of national unity. There was no debate about this. There was no controversy. Naturally, if there is no dispute over the matter, time plays no role. But if an issue is disputed, and we are a democratic party, I think times does play a role. 'Uzi asked me whether I represented the majority in the party; I think I do. I represent a considerable part, perhaps the majority in the party. Neither will I be ashamed should I represent a minority. But discussion about a controversial subject must be facilitated. Otherwise, what is democracy? A ceremony, a show? We are making a mockery of ourselves, and everybody will become cynical regarding democratic procedures.

[Question] You were absent from the Knesset during the debate on the issue because you were in the United States, but in the course of the Knesset debate the prime minister said several times that there was no deviation from the rules of the parliamentary game in a democratic regime.

[Answer] That is according to his concept of it. The prime minister must think that if he is in the hospital or at home, or anywhere for that matter, and reaches some conclusion with himself, the democratic procedures have thus more or less been exhausted. Then the ceremony begins; first a government ceremony, then one in the parliament. Is there not even one person in the Likud who has doubts about it? Suppose there are 10 Likud members -- and you mentioned Berman, fine -- why did the Likud party not convene at all to discuss this? Is this a matter of no significance?

[Question] Are you not sometimes jealous of the prime minister for his ability to rule his party with such swiftness and determination? We have observed a very interesting phenomenon that the Likud actually backs the prime minister even when there are questions, whereas in the main opposition there are all sorts of cracks. The question is if you are not at times envious of Mr Begin?

[Answer] No, no. You know, there was an agreement between Jabotinsky and Ben-Gurion at the time. Jabotinsky passed the agreement in his party in a jiffy; Ben-Gurion remained in the minority. For me Ben-Gurion is still the model, and I am not saying this out of disrespect for Jabotinsky. I am not jealous of Begin, I do not accept the revisionist conception that there can be one man who has a party and that he decides on what will happen. The traditional conception of the Labor Party is democratic in theory and in practice. I am furious with the media as well, for saying each time an argument crops up that this shows weakness. Is argumentation weakness? An argument is power, even if we remain in the minority.

[Question] Mr Peres, democracy also means honoring the law. However, from what you said earlier one could sense some disregard for it. You said: So what if the law is in writing? Anyway it will be amended tomorrow. Is that so?

[Answer] Wait a minute, excuse me, I do not feel disrespect for the law; on the contrary, I greatly respect it, when I write or speak.

[Question] Then why do you not respect this one?

[Answer] Because I am saying that the Cabinet, not I, lacks respect for what it says, not me. It is because the Cabinet, not I, failed to respect the matter of the Rafah approaches. Because the Cabinet, not I, lacked respect for Sharm ash-Shaykh.

[Question] But the Cabinet has now legislated with the goal perhaps of -- and my personal view does not matter -- handcuffing itself, so that it has greater power to object to some possibility that the Golan Heights might be returned.

[Answer] 'Uzi, did you hear what you just said?

[Question] Yes.

[Answer] To handcuff itself? Does a Cabinet handcuff itself? Or will a Cabinet impress itself and disregard the world? What are you talking about? There is also another problem: that if you apply the law, you must do so along the present borderline. There are many members of the Labor Party who supported the application of law, yet said: Yes, but wait a minute, not according to the current map, so that some sort of option for some kind of change -- without removing settlements -- is left. In my opinion, it is asking for opposition. After all, I have just come from the United States, and what did I see there? That whatever the administration says -- the reactions it voices are sometimes too harsh, sometimes too weak, but I am not seeking to be the literary critic of the administration right now -- nevertheless there is increasing objection to Israel among the public. I think that it is not that we are a U.S. strategic asset, but that U.S. public opinion is a political asset of Israel. This is much more serious, and we must nurture that asset and not belittle it, under circumstances over which we have no control.

[Question] Mr Peres, when in Washington you met with administration leaders, with senators and the vice president. You used the word asset. Was it your impression that after the signing of the memorandum on strategic cooperation between us and the United States we have become a strategic asset or a liability?

[Answer] First of all, I would not like to speak for all. Many senators told me that for the first time in their life they received letters carrying antisemitic overtones. This never happened before. One senator, without mentioning names, yet a friend of Israel -- a distinct friend -- analyzed for me who the 11 senators that changed their minds are. Almost all of them are those who were elected to the Senate for the first time. In other words, they estimate that [words indistinct] the attitude toward Israel is no longer a crucial issue.

We should see things as they are. Nowhere did I hear a description of the strategic agreement in the style of Mr Sharon or Mr Begin. Theirs is a distinct Israeli description. I did not feel that, since the agreement on strategic cooperation was signed, the United States feels much more open toward the Soviet Union. Nor did I feel apprehension regarding what might happen should Israel, heaven forbid, distance itself from the United States in this matter. I felt that the United States believes it would be able to survive even without this issue, without the strategic thing.

I saw there unbelievable things: One day I opened the New York TIMES and read one headline, saying that the Israeli defense minister was saying that South Africa was not getting sufficient arms. Here is another concern for Israel to worry about: On the one hand here we are, going to establish ties with African countries, yet on the other hand the defense minister declared that he is worried because South Africa is not receiving enough arms. What are we doing here?

[Question] It is legitimate and normal to play the role of the opposition, but had a representative of the Cabinet sat here, he would have told you: Wait a minute, what is wrong with the strategic memorandum? Why this sarcasm? The fact is that this Cabinet succeeded in reaching some sort of a new framework for relations with the United States. It is a fact that this Cabinet -- not an Alignment government -- broke the ground paving the road to Africa. What would you say to this?

[Answer] Let me tell you what I would say: Here, too, one must weigh what we received and what we potentially paid. It has already been said that this is the first document in which Israel unnecessarily appears against the Soviet Union. We were forced to sign something against the Soviet Union alone in order to tell us that this strategic document distinctly does not cover the Arab threat. So what did we achieve here? We recruited the United States against a threat the existence of which is questionable and to a certain extent relieved it of anything regarding the real danger -- the Arabs. We, the Alignment government, at first tried to obtain a strategic and political understanding with the United States regarding the conflict that threatens us primarily. Now, let me tell you that in many circles I did not sense great admiration for the very document. Israel is not singularly, or mainly, a U.S. strategic asset. Let me tell you why: First of all, I look at the shelf holding documents involving U.S. strategic assets: Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Egypt. Then Israel was also placed on this shelf. I am not convinced that we are in the same boat, because tomorrow someone may discover that those assets are in conflict with one another. If they are immovable assets, the United States will determine which asset is more valuable. Some Americans, for example, found out that the strategic and financial asset called Saudi Arabia weighs more than the strategic asset called Israel.

[Question] In other words, our political predicament worsened as a result of the strategic memorandum?

[Answer] It was certainly not improved psychologically -- after all, the asset, or document, itself is a piece of paper which has very many reservations and general statements. Let me mention one practical, not so much theoretic, aspect: Say the former defense minister -- and I am not talking about myself, but about 'Ezer Weizman -- reached an agreement on arms trade, stipulating that the United States allows us to sell items that include U.S.-made components, too. Fine. Now a committee is established. Would the establishment of that committee make things easier? The committee will carefully scrutinize every component, each country, and will evaluate it. Besides, the Pentagon is not manned solely by people whose chief concern is how to make things easier for Israel. At times even the secretary of defense is not like that.

Once again, this was done without psychological or political consideration. Moreover, I would like to tell you, and you know the truth, that we had one thing in mind and got another -- strategically speaking. There is a difference between the document we submitted and the one we obtained.

What has Mr Begin done so far? He has pledged to evacuate the Sinai. Now the question will arise regarding what will happen to Judaea, Samaria and Gaza? After all, if you apply Israeli law to the Golan Heights, why not do the same to these others?

[Question] What will the Labor Party's position be, if that happens? Then the procedures will be appropriate and it will not be done in haste? What then?

[Answer] There will be an argument within the Labor Party, and the majority will decide. This decision will be binding on all. That's it.

[Question] What will you recommend?

[Answer] I will recommend not applying the Israeli law to all of Judaea and Samaria, because I favor a territorial compromise.

[Question] But only to part of Judaea and Samaria?

[Answer] To that part of Judaea and Samaria which we need -- and again, through negotiations. There is no rush. No one is stopping us from doing anything, only ourselves.

[Question] Had Mr Begin been in my place, he would have told you: What harm have I done so far? For 4 years now you have been predicting that the day will come when the people will see how bad things are, and he will be able to say: The situation is not bad -- see Africa, France, the United States.

[Answer] Since you are asking, I will tell you: The PLO has never enjoyed a better situation, being almost an exclusive alternative to the Palestinians, and this happened over the last 5 years. Never has Israel's international status been as bad as it is today.

[Question] Why do you say that?

[Answer] Read the newspapers.

[Question] But France is improving the bilateral relations, Begin broke the African wall, he has a memorandum of understanding with the United States. Why do you say that our international standing is so bad?

[Answer] All these are potential developments. I have yet to see the breakthrough in Africa -- I only see the talk about it. I can see the publication of this, which will probably end up burying it. I have not seen it so far. Nor have I seen that they have established any new enterprises, or established new industries.

I see that the deficit has grown -- both politically and economically -- and I can see that we are past the Sinai, and before the conflict. Instead of finding a modus vivendi on the Palestinian issue, we have now evacuated the entire area. It is true that processes sometimes take 4 or 5 years -- so what? It is not convenient for us, politicians and newsmen, and we remain mum. But take a look at the overall picture.

[Question] The difficulty I see in your approach is that yours says in fact: Why should Begin try? Why should the government be innovative? You would have liked things to remain as they are -- namely, for the Golan Heights to remain without the Israeli law being applied there, for the Sinai to remain untouched -- whereas he dares, he tries.

[Answer] Excuse me, my dear friend. I am all for Begin being innovative -- but in the direction of peace and rapprochement, rather than playing with territory and remaining involved in the conflict. This is what I fear. But innovations? I am all for them.

I voted for the peace Mr Begin proposed, even though I did not accept the entire plan. But I can see that we are wasting the outcome, we are not being credited with what we did, we put the Palestinian issue at the center of attention, we have multilated the wings of friends and friendship -- and I must think about tomorrow. Political processes do not end overnight.

[Question] Perhaps now, one final question: What is your prediction and forecast for events after April 1982?

[Answer] After April 1982, I do not mean May, I foresee a very serious confrontation with the United States -- and the United States is presently the only friend we have, in terms of countries. Take Norway, for instance: it does not need oil, it does not sell arms, but look at its position today regarding the PLO issue, to cite but one example.

I predict some lull in the relations between Egypt and Israel, although not at once. I expect the Palestinian issue to be placed at the center of attention and make it the subject for maximum pressures, and I deeply regret it. I am not saying this with glee.

[Question] Mr Peres, thank you very much for coming to the studio.

MK PERES SAYS NO MOTION OF NONCONFIDENCE

TA171839 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres has announced that the Alignment will not submit a motion of nonconfidence in the government because if the UN Security Council gives Israel time to retract its decision on the Golan Heights, there is no place, in his opinion, for such a step. At a Labor Party meeting, Mr Peres said that Alignment Knesset members who took part this week in the voting over the Golan Heights issue brought the party unprecedented disgrace. Peres says the Alignment's weakening is similar to the weakening of Israel, and if the Alignment is weakened, Israel will remain in the hands of one man. Peres attacked the prime minister, saying that Begin actually wants sole rule of his party, the Knesset and the government.

SHARON REITERATES STAND ON NORTHERN SITUATION

TA171612 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon has said that Israel's moves in the north are not intended to drag any country whatsoever into war.

According to him, the concentration of forces is intended for defense if Syria begins a war. He also repeated the Cabinet's decision that Israel will not permit the situation prevailing in July 1981 to return to the north. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal, reports that the defense minister has given directives to this effect to the IDF general staff headquarters and the commanders of the forces in the north. Minister Sharon was speaking at a news conference in Tel Aviv.

DRUZE EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR GOLAN HEIGHTS LAW

TA172114 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Israel's Druze supporters in the Golan Heights today officially expressed their support for the annexation of the Golan Heights. At a news conference in Majdal Shams, the head of the pro-Israeli faction, (Salman Abu Salah), said that the imposition of Israeli law had removed from the Druze the fear that they might be returned to Syrian rule, which they do not want because their situation and status has improved and their businesses are flourishing. He is convinced that after the strike in the Druze villages ends, the number of those supporting the imposition of Israeli law will gradually increase. Answering a question, (Salman Abu Salah) refrained from mentioning the number of the Druze who support his views, but he did say that their numbers are increasing. The ITIM correspondent reports that in several villages shops have discreetly opened despite the strike.

IMPLEMENTATION OF GOLAN HEIGHTS LAW BEGINS

TA170935 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 17 Dec 81 p 1

[Text] Interior Minister Dr Yosef Burg put his signature yesterday to the first regulation deriving from the Golan law, which extends the validity of various administration documents such as licenses, detention orders, permits and so forth. Thus the first steps were taken in the implementation of the Golan Law.

The Druze residents on the Golan Heights will be forced to accept Israeli identity cards and they will be also subject to IDF conscription, unless the Defense Ministry exempts them from this out of political reasons.

In the Interior Ministry a team is being set up to examine the legal aspects of the Golan Law.

Police and border police will replace the IDF on the Golan Heights, in maintaining public order.

Starting today, the responsibility for maintaining public order in the region will be transferred from the Military Government to Israel's police. In villages and settlements on the Golan Heights Israeli police began patrol tasks instead of Military Government personnel, and they are now responsible for keeping law and public order. Consequently, Military Government personnel dismantled military roadblocks at the entrances of Druze villages in the Golan and, from now on, no barriers exist in those places.

In the framework of marshalling the police force on the Golan Heights, border police were brought in yesterday, and they joined the police patrols in the area. This is the first time that a border police force has been active on the Golan Heights.

Within the next few days, military administration powers in other fields will be transferred to bodies that handle these matters in the State of Israel.

MILITARY CENSORSHIP RELAXED IN GOLAN HEIGHTS

TA171050 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 17 Dec 81 p 1

[Report by military correspondent]

[Text] Contrary to cases of tension in the past, the IDF is today allowing the movement of troops and convoys of tanks and artillery, indicating a reinforcement of IDF forces on the Golan Heights, to be reported and photographed.

The IDF generally tried to conceal troop movements to the Golan Heights and areas of tension. The military censor did not permit the photographing of convoys and took great care to prevent the matter from being published by the Israeli and foreign press. This time "Israel is flexing its muscles," apparently with the aim of showing the Syrians that the IDF is ready to deter them from any rash act. Israeli as well as foreign television networks received permission to photograph the movement of heavy weapon convoys on their way to the Golan Heights as well as those on the heights.

POST EDITORIAL ON GOLAN LAW, UN RESOLUTION 242

TA1S0722 Jerusalem POST in English 18 Dec 81 p 18

[Editorial: "A Delayed Bill"]

[Excerpts] Whatever its precise terms, it was clear that the resolution that was to be passed by the Security Council last night, would not easily let this country off the Golan hook. To accomodate the United States, Israel was to be given time to reconsider the Golan Law, and to be warned that if it failed to do so the council would take the issue up again. This meant that the Golan would remain on the council's agenda for a while.

The prospect does not seem to disturb government leaders in Jerusalem in the least. The attitude seems to be: Let the dogs bark, and let the caravan pass.

The secret of this equanimity lies in the secure knowledge that the United States would not allow a resolution on the Golan to be equipped with sanctions against Israel, and the assumption that any resolution unaccompanied by sanctions is toothless.

Yet what Premier Begin did in extending Israel's law to the Golan -- i.e. in annexing the area -- was to unilaterally scrap Security Council Resolution 242 as the binding basis for a comprehensive Middle East peace, as provided in the Camp David accords.

Mr Begin at one time rejected Resolution 242 altogether because, like the Arabs and the Soviets, he believed that it read Israel out of all the territories occupied in the 6-Day War. Now he appears to believe almost the exact opposite: that by agreeing to hand all of Sinai, right up to the international frontier, to Egypt, Israel had discharged the duty, under 242, to discuss "secure and recognized boundaries" with the remaining Arab states that lost territories to it in June 1967, including Syria. In other words, that Israel is entitled under 242, to those territories in their entirety.

There is, however, no warrant for any such belief, just as there is no justification whatever for the Arab and Soviet reading of 242. That is why the annexation of the Golan is liable to come back to haunt Mr Begin, even bite.

REAGAN'S REACTION TO GOLAN REPORTEDLY 'MODERATE'

TA180546 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan said the Golan annexation increased the difficulty of seeking peace in our region. He expressed hope that the wrong done can yet be ameliorated and that the peace process will continue. The future of the Golan Heights, President Reagan emphasized, will have to be agreed upon in negotiations according to UN resolutions. He was speaking at a press conference in Washington.

Jerusalem sources pointed out that his reaction to the Golan annexation was relatively moderate. They estimate that the U.S. administration will not adopt punitive steps against Israel, but will make do with verbal denouncements and a few symbolic actions, such as a delay in the implementation of the memorandum of understanding.

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir informed his counterpart Alexander Haig that the steps taken by the IDF in the Golan are cautionary measures of a defensive nature. Israel is interested in maintaining the cease-fire and, if the Syrians maintain it, Israel will do likewise.

JERUSALEM ARABIC ON GOLAN, SYRIAN POLICY

JN151534 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1125 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Observation by Anis Tawfiq]

[Text] Had Israel considered only official Syrian behavior from the establishment of Israel today, there would have been enough to justify the Golan Law which was approved by the Knesset last night. Syria is currently in the forefront of those states which are hostile to peace. The Syrian leaders and media are telling the whole world that they are not only not waiting for or wanting peace but also waiting for an increase in Arab power, or rather Syria's power, so that in the future it will be able to impose its will on Israel. Its will can be summarized by saying that Syria does not want Israel to exist in the first place. Syrian textbooks, especially books published since the Ba'th takeover, clearly show that the Ba'thist government is trying to bring up new generations that will be fanatic and hostile toward Israel, toward peace and toward the entire Jewish race. One might doubt this sort of thing in a modern state and in the last fifth of the 20th century. This, however, is what is really taking place in Syria. Fanaticism is in the blood of the Syrian Ba'th Party. Fanaticism itself has recently made the Syrian leaders issue all these mad statements, such as Syria's foreign minister's statement in which he said that his country regards Palestine as the natural extension of Syria to the south; and the deeds and statements of the Ba'th chief Hafiz al-Asad who declined to attend Fes conference to discuss an unreasonable and irrational project proposed by Saudi Arabia. In the opinion of the Syrian Ba'thists, this project was imperfect because it was less extreme than Ba'thist Syrian projects.

Yesterday, the Syrian president went beyond all extremes when he affirmed that his party would not recognize Israel even if the PLO recognized it.

In view of all these insane statements, what can we ask Israel to do? To return the Golan to the Syrian Ba'thists and accept the stationing of Syrian artillery and missiles in the Golan Heights in order to shell and rocket Israeli villages and towns? What can we ask Israel to do in the face of all this open Syrian Ba'thist hostility? Can we believe that the Syrian Ba'thists will regain their reason in the future? Syria and Israel reached many agreements to realize a cease-fire and disengage forces between the two countries. All these agreements stipulated that the two states aimed at realizing peace in the future and that the signed agreements were landmarks on the road to peace. How can we be reassured about the Syrian Ba'th Party when official Syrian statements are like the ones reported recently by the media? Israel seeks peace everywhere, even with Ba'thist Syria. Israel has hit an unpenetrable, inflexible wall with Syria. All this took place after Israel proved on the southern front that it was prepared to sacrifice and take every risk for the sake of peace.

However, immoral Ba'thist actions have now forced Israel to take all necessary measures to safeguard security and safety in the north after it has been proven that the Ba'thists are not ready to even hear the word peace or to think about it. Following its peace with Egypt, there are many reasons that cause Israel to take the acts and statements of the antipeace front perfectly seriously. The Syrian Ba'th Party has taken a small test vis-a-vis Saudi fanaticism against peace and has met with abject failure. Before that, the Ba'th Party refused to take the test vis-a-vis Israel's calls for peace. It demonstrated its ill-intentions.

From the purely historic viewpoint, the Syrian Ba'th Party will have only itself to blame. History will say that the party undermined its own position and cut off the branch it was perching on. He who rejects peace must bear the consequences of this rejection to the end.

SHARON SPEECH ON STRATEGIC PROBLEMS IN 1980'S

TA171202 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 15 Dec 81

[Prepared speech by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon at 14 December conference of the Institute for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University, read by Maj Gen (Res) Aharon Yariv]

[Text] It is a pleasure and a privilege to be with you, this evening, at the opening session of the international conference on defense and national economy in the 1980's -- and to address this distinguished audience.

The issues to be discussed at this conference are of utmost importance and I want, at the outset, to felicitate its sponsors -- the Tel Aviv University and its Center for Strategic Studies.

My friend General Yariv deserves my personal thanks for his invitation to me and for giving me this opportunity to present my views on the challenges facing Israel's national security. Thank you.

To all participants in this conference, I extend my wishes of success in your proceedings and fruitful discussions during the coming days.

Let me now turn to the subject. First I will focus on the challenges to our security. As I see them, our main security problems during the 1980's will stem from external threats to Israel, her integrity and her sovereign rights -- from two courses, namely:

One -- The Arab confrontation

Second -- The Soviet expansion which both builds on the Arab confrontation and at the same time provides it with its main political and military tools.

Later on, I will comment on the implications in terms of political and military requirements in order to cope with the threat and to ensure Israel's national security in the 1980's.

Starting with the Arab challenge, I must touch upon the three major factors which, in my mind, contribute the most to sustain Arab enmity and confronation at a level that presents an actual danger to our security and which, I believe, will continue to sustain it in the foreseeable future -- at a level which might confront us with a potential threat to the existence and integrity of Israel.

Those factors are:

A. First, the national ideology of radical Arab regimes (such as in Syria, Libya, Iraq and South Yemen) and their political and strategic ambitions which motivate them to invest, on a first-priority basis, in the creation of a political-military setting designed to serve a strategy of political and military stages for the liquidation of the State of Israel.

The main elements of this strategy of stages can be summed up as follows:

1) A combined effort of sustained political pressure and, when needed, limited military action aimed at the harassment and weakening of Israel.

2) The build-up of a military power, conventional and eventually nonconventional, to be used in appropriate conditions in the future, for a decisive onslaught against Israel.

3) The third element of the strategy is the political and military reliance on the Soviet Union, to ensure the Arab capability to initiate and carry out the confrontation.

4) The fourth element is to maximize the political strategic impact of the oil weapon.

5) And the fifth is the political and military backing to the PLO as an instrument to carry out terrorist activities. This constitutes a central element in the strategy of stages, so long as Israel's deterrent posture and other political considerations prevent the formation of an Arab coalition, ready to wage war.

That brings me to the second major factor, which is the PLO. On the challenge presented by the PLO, I will say only this: The PLO poses a political threat to the very existence of the State of Israel and remains one of the main obstacles to the resolution of the Palestinian problem on the basis of the Camp David accords.

It constitutes a framework for terrorist organizations operating against Israel, in its territory or in the world at large, with the following purposes:

-- To undermine the domestic stability in Israel and its security

-- To generate international pressure on Israel

-- To drag the confrontation states to war against Israel

-- To deter Arab countries and moderate Palestinian elements from negotiations with Israel on the basis of Camp David.

The third factor is one of growing concern to us and to the Western world, and might well develop as the main challenge of the 1980's. It has to do wtih the Soviet strategy of expansion in the Middle East and Africa. The Soviet strategy is under no pressure of time, but its achievements since the middle of the 1950's are really impressive.

Let me illustrate that point on these maps showing the progress of Soviet penetration, directly and through proxies, during the last 25 years. (display the maps comparing Soviet presence in the Middle East and Africa in 1955, 1971, 1981 and give figures on quantities of Soviet main weapon systems prepositioned in Africa). This gradual Soviet penetration has created an entirely new strategic environment which threatens the stability and the security of the countries in the whole region as well as vital interests of the free world. It is a strategy of expansion which, if not checked, could eventually enable the Soviet Union:

-- To ensure a sea-control capability in the Mediterranean, the Indian Ocean, the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf.

-- To establish the military infrastructure for direct or indirect operations.

— To expand and penetrate other key countries in the Middle East and the Persian Gulf, from the direction of Afghanistan, Iraq, South Yemen and Syria

-- To outflank NATO's eastern tier (Turkey) through Iran, Iraq, Syria and Lebanon

-- To outflank NATO's southern tier in the Mediterranean, through Libya, Syria and Algeria

- To gain control over other key countries in Africa, from the direction of Libya, Algeria, South Yemen, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Angola and Congo-Brazzaville.

Soviet ambitions in these areas, which constitute the strategic hinterland of Israel, have clearly been the underlying motive and factor in the military assistance given to Arab countries for their preparations to war against Israel, and in the growing Soviet involvement in those confrontations.

The Soviet advances in the region have been made possible during the 1970's because of the U.S. strategic passivity in those years and the freedom of action the Soviet Union has enjoyed to penetrate the Middle East and Africa.

Today, as in the past two decades, the Soviet strategy of expansion in the area continues to build on:

-- Arab regimes which Soviet political and military support enables to survive, to carry out their own ambitions and to maintain military confrontations -- including the confrontation with Israel.

-- Radical elements and terrorist organizations, which Soviet political and military support enables to create upheavals threatening to shift the region towards Soviet political-strategic patronage.

The shadow of Soviet presence in the Middle East and Africa endangers the stability of the region and vital interests of the free world. I want to stress this point with all possible emphasis. The greatest danger to the free world in the 1980's would be to continue and indulge in the wishful thinking and the inaction which have characterized Western attitudes to Soviet gradual expansion during the last two decades.

The greatest danger is to continue and ignore the fact that Soviet strategy is not a strategy of direct confrontation but an indirect strategy aimed at creating instabilities in the countries of the Third World in order to disrupt the world economy and to deny free access to vital resources.

It is a strategy of "resource interdiction," as defined by Stalin, as far back as in 1921, and I quote:

"If Europe and America may be called the front, the nonsovereign nations and colonies, with their raw materials, should be regarded as the rear, the reserve of imperialism. In order to win a war, one must not only triumph at the front, but also revolutionize its rear, its reserves." Stalin 1921

If anybody is willing to question the actual validity of this Soviet approach, let me read a later quotation, this time in a 1977 speech of Leonid Brezhnev in which the Soviet leader stated the Soviet aim as follows, and I quote:

"Our aim is to gain control of the two great treasure houses on which the West depends: the energy treasure house of the Persian Gulf and the mineral treasure house of central and southern Africa..." Leonid I. Brezhnev, president of the USSR, 1977.

These statements of the Soviet leaders are clear enough and do not need any further interpretation. Moreover, Soviet activities, directly and through proxies, in the Middle East and Africa can only testify the Soviet strategies have registered noticeable achievements.

Soviet expansionism has therefore become a common national security challenge to all free countries. I believe that strategic cooperation between Israel, the United States and other prowestern countries in these areas, first and foremost Egypt, with whom Israel is now developing a new relationship anchored in a peace treaty -- is the only realistic way to prevent further Soviet encroachments. It could constitute a central lever for stablizing the area and to enhance the prospects of peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors, whose own national security interests compel them to take steps to check Soviet expansion.

At this point, I want to touch upon some of the implications on Israel's defence policy. First of all, it should now be clearly understood that, in the new strategic environment which I have just described, Israel's national security interests are influenced by developments and events far beyond the direct confrontation area where Israel had focused its attention in the past.

Beyond the first traditional belt of confrontation countries, surrounding Israel, Israel's strategic interest has to extend to two additional geographical spheres of security concerns:

-- The second circle relates to outside Arab countries whose growing military capabilities add a most dangerous dimension to the direct threat facing Israel, either by means of expeditionary forces to the confrontation area or even by direct air and naval action they are able to launch against Israeli air and naval lines of communication.

-- The third geographical area of Israeli strategic interest comprises those external countries whose political strategic status and orientation can dangerously influence Israel's national security.

In other words, beyond the Arab countries in the Middle East, the Mediterranean and the Red Sea, Israel's sphere of strategic and security interest must be broadened to include in the 1980's countries such as Turkey, Iran and Pakistan and regions such as the Persian Gulf and Africa, particularly the countries of North and central Africa.

Obviously, in order to be able to protect our national security interests, we will have to ensure our ability to maintain a balance of forces and a qualitative and technological edge over any combination of Arab war coalition; in other words:

-- To prevent war by maintaining a deterrent posture against the threats to the existence of Israel.

-- Should deterrence break down and war erupt, to ensure a military capability to preserve the integrity of Israel's territory, in any war-opening situation including a sudden Arab attack, and to disrupt the war coalition by damaging the core of its offensive capability.

To achieve these goals, we will have to structure our military strength on new approaches, taking into account:

-- The lack of territorial depth and therefore the necessity to establish a strong territorial defense system, based on populous and high quality settlement of key border areas in Judaea, Samaria, the Gaza district, the Golan Heights, the Galilee and the Negev.

-- The need to provide maximun protection to human life.

-- The need to develop and produce weapon systems and equipment which should enable us to maintain a permanent qualitative advantage over Arab confrontation states -- including with regard to advanced and sophisticated equipment they might get from Eastern and Western sources.

As a rule, while striving to establish ties of strategic cooperation with the United States to enhance stability and security in the region as a whole, we will continue to ensure our own independent ability to cope with the Arab military threats to our existence and security.

In order to cope with the threat, Israel cannot build on a balance of power based on a simple quantitative ratio of military forces. We cannot hope to match Arab numbers. Therefore, Israel's defense policy will have to ensure our ability.

-- To maintain a military balance based, beyond the quantitative ratio, on a clear qualitative and technological superiority. Israel is confronted by the challenge of maintaining a balance in peace of countries which have practically no limitations in funds to finance their military effort and furthermore in the mind of military technology and sophisticated weaponry they receive from all three sources -- the Soviet, the American and the West-European supply sources, which are all competing by the same means for influence and economic advantages. Among the three sources of supply the United States remains sensitive to the need of maintaining a balance in the Arab-Israeli confrontation. But there is no control on the influx of armament from Soviet and European sources. Therefore, Israel has to build on her independent capability to develop and produce systems which are vital to ensure our qualitative advantage and our security. This puts a tremendous burden on our defense budget and on Israel's national economy.

We will have to find ways to alleviate that burden, among others, by an active effort to increase our exports to countries who share our strategic concerns and with whom we maintain security relationships. In any case, we are determined to view the development of our security industries and productions as an essential component of our national security. The second "safety valve" if I can use that concept, in our defense policy, is our resolve and our ability to prevent the disruption of the territorial military status in neighboring countries. That includes our resolve.

-- One -- To prevent the violation of security arrangements laid down in political agreements such as in the Sinai with Egypt, and the Golan with Syria. It must be crystal clear: We did sign the peace treaty with Egypt and we faithfully carry out its provisions of withdrawal to the international border, but we have no intention to accept any violation of the status and of the security arrangements in the Sinai as agreed between us.

-- Two -- We will prevent any violation of the status quo ante in south Lebanon.

-- Three -- We will prevent any change in the geographical-military status of the confrontation area which might present unacceptable threat such as the massive introduction of Iraqi forces into Jordan or southern Syria or Syrian forces into Jordan. Such an accumulation of forces in the confrontation area would endanger our very existence and is therefore unacceptable to Israel.

What should be realized is that, because of the nature of the military forces of today, which are highly mobile armored and mechanized forces instead of the infantry of the past, and because of the range of weapon systems in the Arab order of battle including missiles and intelligence means which cover the whole of the Israeli territory, we face on our present borders the very same defense problems we had on our 1967 lines.

The third element in our defense policy for the 1980's is our determination to prevent confrontation states or potentially confrontation states from gaining access to nuclear weapons. Israel cannot afford the introduction of the nuclear weapon. For us it is not a question of a balance of terror but a question of survival. We shall therefore have to prevent such a threat at its inception.

There are three major elements in our defense policy for the 1980's. We shall, of course, also maintain our freedom of action and our ability to act in order to overcome the terrorist threat. To sum up -- in order to strengthen the foundation of its national security, in face of the direct Arab threat as well as in face of the challenge from outside the region, Israel will make special efforts:

-- One -- To ensure our qualitative advantage and maintain the required balance of forces.

-- Two -- To expand and consolidate our economic, industrial, scientific demographic and physical infrastructure, so as to carry the burden of our national security.

-- Three -- To hold political negotiations from a position of security for the purpose of continuing the peace process between Israel and her neighbors.

-- Four -- To consolidate and nurture national unity in Israel, as well as the ties between Israel and the Jewish people in the Diaspora.

-- Five -- To enhance strategic cooperation with the United States and to develop security relationships with Middle-Eastern and African countries and with other countries in the world. In that respect, I want to stress that Israel is not a liability but an asset, as the United States has gradually come to realize. For the common defense of the Free World, beyond our military capabilities, Israel has to offer an example of true democracy and stability in the midst of regional uncertainties and upheavals, and moreover the capability to contribute to the well-being of developed and less-developed nations, in many important fields such as science, medicine, food production and sophisticated agricultural technology in general.

The memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation just signed between the United States and Israel constitutes a new starting line for a fruitful and mutually beneficial security relationship which not only is consistent with the defense policy I have just described but which will hopefully contribute to the enhancement of stability, peace and security in the whole region, in the coming decade.

WEST BANK FIGURE URGES HUSAYN TO DISCUSS PEACE

TA151251 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Text] The head of the Hebron Area Village League, Mustafa Dudin, has called on King Husayn to take the initiative and join the peace process. In a conversation with our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari, Mustafa Dudin said that the ties of the residents of the territories with Jordan are extremely close, and every family has relatives on the East Bank of Jordan. Mustafa Dudin was critical of the expropriation of land in the territories, terming it illegal. In his view this policy reinforces Arab propaganda against the Jews.

MA'ARIV: PRC SEEKS RURAL DEVELOPMENT AID

TA131109 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 13 Dec 81 p 3

[Report by Aharon Pri'el]

[Excerpt] Agricultural experts from China are seeking "working ties" with Israeli experts who would be able to help them in regional rural development on a large scale in several provinces in China.

The interest of official Chinese representatives in possible cooperation with Israel in regional rural development in their country was related by Prof Ra'anan Weitz, director of the Rehovot-based Center for Settlement Research. Weitz was returning from a UN-sponsored international conference in Japan which was also attended by Chinese representatives.

Professor Weitz said he had been elected to serve as chairman of a team of experts that would summarize interim reports relating to regional rural development in the five largest Asian countries: China, India, Bangladesh, Indonesia and the Philippines.

Weitz invited his colleagues from China to visit the Rehovot center, which is UN-affiliated. "This is not a political institution. For many years it has given aid to developing countries in Latin America, Asia and Africa," Professor Weitz noted.

POLL SHOWS SUPPORT FOR MILITARY IN TERRITORIES

TA161240 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Dec 81 p 3

[Pori Poll report]

[Text] A decisive majority of Israelis believe Israeli military supervision in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza is vital for the country's security and that this cannot be guaranteed by other means, according to the findings of a nationwide Pori Poll commissioned by HA'ARETZ.

Question: "Do you think that Israeli Army supervision in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza is vital for Israel's security, or that Israel's security can be ensured by other means?" To this question, 80 percent of those polled replied that Israeli military supervision was vital, as compared with 12 percent who thought that other means could be found.

Another 1.2 percent said it depended on various circumstances, such as whether we would get international guarantees for peace, whether there would be assurances that no Palestinian state would be established, and who the defense minister was. The other 5.9 percent had no opinion on the subject.

The poll covered a representative sample of 1,200 men and women.

ALGERIA

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY CONDEMNS GOLAN ANNEXATION

LD171142 Algiers APS in English 1010 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Algiers, 17 Dec (APS) -- The People's National Assembly (APN), which is carrying out its works in a pleanry session on the study of the appropriation bill and budget for the year 1982 condemned unanimously yesterday the annexation of Golan by the Zionist entity.

The members of parliament held, in this connection, a special session during which the spokesman from foreign affairs read a motion, unanimously adopted, declaring that People's National Assembly examined "the serious situation of the Middle-East following the decision taken by the Zionist entity to annex the Syrian Golan joining a new aggression and violation of laws and conventions worldly recognized."

"This act, which threatens international peace and security," the motion added, is a new demonstration of Zionist nature mainly based on violation of law and international piracy."

After having considered that "this act of piracy is not only an aggression against Syria but a blatant aggression against the whole Arab peoples," the deputies appeal to the Arab masses to redouble solidarity and to mobilize all the potentialities to take up the Zionist challenges. They condemn all the attempts aiming at the Arab rights in general and the Palestinian ones in particular."

Finally, the APN expressed another time the Algerian people's indefectible and entire solidarity with the Syrian brother people.

HOSTILITY TOWARD NATIONAL YOUTH UNION DENOUNCED

LD171616 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Members of the National Council and the Provisional General Secretaries, now meeting in a special session of the council to prepare for the second converence of the National Union of Algerian Youth, approved a resolution in which they recalled the important role played by the union and demanded the adoption of measures against those irresponsible elements hostile to the union.

The resolution adds: We denounce this artificial atmosphere created with the intention of obstructing the implementation of the resolutoins of the National Committee for Preparation for Conferences. We strongly denounce the ambiguous practices and stands adopted by them during the meetings of the National Council with the aim of weakening the unity of the youth to attain their objective of leading the conference into a situation whereby our organization would be branded impotent and a failure. This, in turn, will help those elements with private interests to strike at the unity of the youth and consequently demand the creation of parallel organizations -- a matter which contradicts the provisions of the national charter and the resolutions of the FLN's fourth and extraordinary conference and, in particular, the directives of the President and FLN Secretary General Brother Chadli Benjedid.

We demand that those members who have insulted the National Committee for Preparation for Conferences be referred to a disciplinary council and the most severe penalties be imposed against them.

We salute members of the National Committee for Preparation for Conferences for the responsible spirit they have shown and appreciate their efforts to ensure the success of the conferences.

The resolution adds: We affirm our complete commitment to observing the basic statutes of the organization and the gains accomplished by the National Council in spite of all obstacles. We are proud of the honorable stand taken by the president of the party's General Organization Committee. We also salute all valuable directives offered by the brother member of the Political Bureau and the official in charge of the Permanent Committee of the Central Committee. We affirm our unconditional support for the political command headed by struggler Chadli Benjedid, the party's secretary general and president of the republic. We pledge to continue our responsible mobilization of the youth base to ensure the success of the second conference of youth and to secure their wide contribution to the socialist building and the preservation of the revolutionary gains made by our people under the wise leadership of our pioneering party, the FLN. We are totally pleased with the results of the National Council's session and the success attained thanks to the vigilance, wisdom and rationale of the strugglers who have continued to rise above such irresponsible actions, placing before their eyes the interests of the youth and the revolution above all other considerations.

LIBYA

ENVOY: FOREIGNERS HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR

LD171616 Hamburg DPA in German 1510 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Bonn, 17 Dec (DPA) -- The head of the Libyan People's Bureau, that is to say the embassy, Mahdi Imbarash, has reaffirmed the guarantee of safety for all foreigners living in Libya, especially U.S. citizens. He told newsmen in Bonn today that so far 67 U.S. citizens have complied with the U.S. administration's appeal to leave Libya.

He called U.S. accuations about alleged Libyan plans to murder President Ronald Reagan and about Libyan expansionist plans in Africa part of a slander campaign against his country, intended to provide the pretext for U.S. military action.

The Libyan diplomat stressed that U.S. citizens and other foreigners in Libya have nothing to fear. But even if all Americans leave the country, the Libyan oil industry will be able to cope. In this connection, he praised the offers by other Arab countries, particularly Kuwait, to make its technological experience available for oil production in Libya.

He welcomed the fact that European countries, he mentioned no names, are not supporting the American "blackmail" of Libya. Asked if the American-Libyan confrontation could strain relations between Bonn and Tripoli, he said: "The Federal German Republic is not America."

MOROCCO

PRIME MINISTER DEFENDS GOVERNMENT PROGRAM

LD111558 Rabat MAP in English 1230 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Text] Rabat, 11 Dec (MAP) -- Moroccan Premier Mr Maati Bouabid made a statement Thursday before the House of Representatives, in answer to questions asked by Parliament members on the government's program for 1982.

Mr Bouabid first said he was overjoyed all last week while hearing the nation's representatives examine and analyse the governmental program. This, he said, was the demonstration that Morocco's democracy is moving ahead and hoped this dialogue would be continuous and full of national patriotism and characterized by perseverance, which alone can allow democracy to reach its high level.

Thanking MP's, regardless of their tendencies, for their precious remarks, Mr Bouabid outlined that "excesses" appearing in certain addresses were a phenomenon that all democracies have.

Mr Bouabid then recalled that all MP's agreed that Morocco was going through a critical phase, due on the one hand, to international economic crisis and on the other, to conjunctural difficulties such as drought.

He said underscoring these facts in the government's program [words indistinct] "diversion demogagy" as some claimed, but moral courage to say the truth and the people know it.

He said government's affirmations, that half the hard currency the country's exports make are being eroded by energy imports, are controllable and verifiable. The same, he said, goes for the drought, and its effects.

Mr Bouabid then proceeded to briefly comment on certain remarks, implying the government is not fully assuming its responsibilities, or that its program is one that does not inspire confidence in the future. He underscored that the program rejects any false optimism and is courageously attached to reality and the truth, because, he stressed, the governmental program aims, among other things, at "demonstrating an integral part of the great national combat the Moroccan people is leading on the military and civil fronts, and that each Moroccan citizen is (?mobilized) to face aggression and its implications.

As to remarks about lack of precision and of effort to seek radical solutions that allegedly characterized the elaboration of the program, Mr Bouabid refuted this by indicating that the government not only meticulously worked out the five year plan 1981-85 -- in collaboration with MP's, he recalled -- and have made sure that the 1982 program includes all projects provided for by the five-year plan, but has also made taxing efforts to insert, within the plan's framework, an emergency plan to meet unaccounted-for and uncontrollable factors, like drought.

As to calling the program one of pauperisation and stagnation, Mr Bouabid said this was demagogy and mustification [as received], for "every measure the government is to take, will go in the sense of reducing disparities among social strata and will constitute a positive effort toward development."

This, said Mr Bouabid, could be seen from the policy of employment, education, housing, public health and other social sectors. It will also be seen from the policy to be followed in productive sectors like agriculture, industry, handicraft, fisheries and tourism, he added.

Premier Bouabid then recalled that the five-year plan and the governmental program were two complementary documents, a reason why he had, as his role of premier required, only presented a program articulated around major political, economic and social guiding lines, leaving out details included in the five-year plan, which would however, he said, be examined on another occasion, when each minister would answer questions concerning his own department.

Mr Bouabid assured the house that all the five year plan's projects have been programmed and will be carried out. He said financial means, internal and external, will be mobilized to ensure financing these programs, along with maintaining austerity policy in public expenditure.

He said external financing is complementary to internal financial resources, and would be sought at convenient terms and within "reasonable" limits.

He also stressed that the emergency plan would not be executed at the expense of the five-year plan which has been integrally maintained.

Mr Bouabid then said the major axes around which the government would concentrate its efforts are encouraging investments, particularly in productive sectors like agriculture, industry, handicrafts...encouraging exports to redress trade balance and balance of payment, and establishing a long-term comprehensive energy program, to gradually relieve the country from the heavy burden taxing its potentialities.

Mr Bouabid then briefly went over other priority sectors like employment, education, educational, judicial and administrative reforms, inviting MP's seeking ampler and more detailed explanation to confer with the concerned ministers.

He assured the house the government will make sure to carry out its engagements taken before the nation's representatives.

Premier Bouabid then underlined that to achieve our ambitions, the whole nation should be mobilized not just the government, in other words all local and national elects [as received], all political, syndical, social and economic organizations as well. [words indistinct] filled us when united around his majesty the king to preserve our territorial integrity and the defense of our recovered Saharan provinces, is the one that should fill us at the moment. Our mobilization to construct and edity, for edifying the country, is not less important than defending its frontiers," he said.

To conclude, Mr Bouabid said he insisted on reiterating that the circumstances which the government was formed were not those of facility and abundance, but of difficulty and insufficiency of means, a situation calling neither for exaggerated pessimism nor false optimism, but seriousness, efficiency, vigilance and responsible militantism.

EXILE CLAIMS POLISARIO SUBVERTED BY ALGERIA

LD101422 Rabat MAP in English 1229 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] Brussels, 10 Dec (MAP) -- The Belgian weekly POURQUOI PAS? published, in its issue of this Thursday, an interview with a founding member of the Polisario, Sid Ahmed Mohammed Larosi, who is currently a refugee in the Netherlands.

In this interview, Mr Larosi raised serious accusations against "the Polisario" and against Algiers.

Under the title "Sahara: A Siberia Without Snow," the Belgian weekly wrote, "that the Polisario [might] be an instrument in the hands of Algeria and sometimes of Libya, one had suspicions about that. And it is only dupery. That the refugees in Tindouf [might] be Mauritanians, Malians, South Yemenis, and nomads from southern Algeria that include among them only a few real Saharans, one had suspicions about that also. And it is only an imposture.

But that the Polisario, which is supposed to defend the Saharan cause [should] become the accomplice of a regime which arrests, detains in camps, tortures and eliminates Saharans, this is called an infamy.

The weekly added: "Who raises such a serious accusation? Saharans, and mainly Sid Ahmed Mohamed Larosi, 28-years old, former technical director of Radio-Tindouf, who reveals when and how the Algerian regime had annexed the political and military directions of the Polisario and who accuses the Polisario and Algiers of liquidating the Saharans whom they do not find submissive enough."

I affirm that the Polisario does not represent the Saharan people any longer, said Mr Larosi. "The Executive Committee, the Political Bureau, the General Staff are composed of foreigners, who have no genealogical ties with Western Sahara."

Secretary General Mohamed Abdelaziz, he added; is Algerian. President of the Saharan Republic (SDAR) Mohamed Laime is a Moroccan opponent from Tan-Tan. 80 percent of the members of the Political Bureau of the Executive Committee are either Mauritanians or Algerians. Their presence in command posts of the Polisario show that the Saharans are no longer masters of their destiny. I affirm that most of the refugees in the Tindouf camps are foreigners to Western Sahara. They are nomads from southern Algeria, Mali, South Yemen and mainly from Mauritania.

Asked why he has waited so long to denounce the Algerian stranglehold on the Polisario, Mr Larosi said that in Tindouf, the Saharans have no liberty. They are under the constant watch of the Algerian military security. Those who tried to oppose the political or military choices of the Algerian Government were arrested, tortured, and eliminated.

Mr Larosi recalled that he left Algeria in November 1979 for Geneva to undergo medical care at the expense of the Algerian Government, but once cured, he refused to go back to Algeria and asked the Polisario secretary general to liberate the Saharans who were detained in Algerian camps. The secretary general exacted that Mr Larosi returned to the camp before negotiating but the latter refused as he knew the destiny of those who did not respect Algerian decisions.

In this respect, he cited the name of some persons who disappeared indicating that even a whole tribe of Algerian Saharans [words indistinct] Salam including about 6,000 persons disappeared as it refused to combat in Western Sahara.

Mr Larosi further evoked how the Saharans came to disagree with the Polisario when the Algerian authorities imposed Mohammed Lamine as prime minister of the SDAR while he was not even a native of Western Sahara.

After this appointment, he indicated, the Saharans revolted and elected the "twenty-member committee" which was called to discuss and determine the political orientations.

After this, the Algerian authorities set up a Saharan military unit. This unit left Tindouf on April 12, 1975. Once it arrived in the desert it was encircled and disarmed by Algerian soldiers and was condemned to hard labour for 8 months. Those who were tried or disobeyed were tortured.

When they returned to Tindouf, said Mr Larosi, these Saharans were under the constant watch of the Algerian military security. They were arrested a second time in July 1976.

"I only remained in prison for 24 hours. The Polisario Executive Committee (?searched) for me, for it needed me to ensure the functioning of the Tindouf radio. As to the hundreds of other Saharans, no one knows where they are and no one dares asks questions about them in Tindouf," outlined Mr Larois.

Asked on what one can do for these Saharans, Mr Larosi said, "One must alert international public opinion, justice and freedom loving men. Humanitarian organisms must consider the situation of these thousands of Saharans who are victims of a scenario that does not meet their real aspirations. The international community must exert pressure on the Algerian Government so that it sets free the Saharan prisoners, and separate the real natives of the Sahara from the Algerians, Morocoan opponents, Malians, and Mauritanians."

About the referendum, Mr Larosi said that the decision of the king of Morroco to accept the referendum was a good thing, but it does not respond to the interests of the Polisario and of Algeria. And this is what explains the attack against Gueltat Zemmur in which the Polisario used sophisticated arms -- Soviet made T-54 tanks and ground to air SAM missiles -- for the first time. Mr Larosi finally indicated that the Saharan dissidents of the Polisario cannot keep silent on the destiny of their brothers who are imprisoned and tortured in Algeria, and that they would set up in the few coming days an authentic Saharan front as the Polisario has lost its legitimacy and its representativity and has become the accomplice of those who oppress the Saharans.

SUDAN

MIRGHANI URGES ARAB MEETING TO STUDY GOLAN

JN171810 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1720 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Dec (SUNA) -- Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak told SUNA that Sudan, proceeding from its pan-Arab duty and extreme interest in the Arab nation's issue, calls on the Arab League General Secretariat to immediately call for an emergency meeting of the Arab foreign and defense ministers to study the dimensions and complications of the Zionist entity's decision to annex the Arab Golan and to take the necessary measures and steps to prevent the implementation of this decision and to stop Israeli expansion at the expense of the Arab nation.

In a statement to SUNA, the foreign minister said: I have already sent a cable to the Arab League secretary general on holding this meeting as soon as possible. I also sent a cable to the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization as well as to the nonaligned countries group and the OAU secretary general.

Muhammad Mirghani explained that President Numayri is in touch with U.S. President Reagan, British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher, in her capacity as the EEC chairman, and the OAU in this regard.

The foreign minister asserted that the recent Israeli Knesset decision to annex the Golan Heights is a serious development and a blatant attack aimed at usurping the occupied Arab territories one after the other in implementation of Israel's expansionist policy. We are certain that Israel will forge ahead in implementing its expansionist and aggressive designs and policy so long as the Arab nation remains divided and dismembered. He pointed out that in the absence of Arab solidarity and a unified Arab strategy, all statements of denunciation and condemnation would fail to curb and deter Israel.

Muhammad Mirghani said the time is ripe for the Arab nation to bypass its differences to purify the Arab atmosphere and to marshal all its energies to confront all the serious challenges facing it.

NUMAYRI RECEIVES GHALI, MESSAGE FROM MUBARAK

JN171451 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Dec (SUNA) -- President Numayri today received a letter from his brother Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, dealing with bilateral relations and issues of joint interests in all fields within the consultations and coordination between the two countries. The letter was delivered by Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, who arrived in Khartoum early today.

The meeting was attended by First Vice President Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil, Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, Sudan's Ambassador to Egypt 'Abd ar-Rahman Salman Nasir and Egyptia Ambassador in Khartoum Muhammad 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif.

Ghali Comments

NC171655 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1520 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 17 Dec (MENA) -- Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri received a written message from President Husni Mubarak. The message was delivered to President Numayri by Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, during their meeting this afternoon.

After their 2-hour meeting, Dr Butrus Ghali made a special statement to the MENA correspondent in Khartoum, in which he said that President Numayri studied President Mubarak's message with interest. Then a very useful discussion took place on a number of issues pertaining to Egyptian and Sudanese diplomacy, including mutual coordination in the international organizations, including the United Nations, the OAU and others.

Dr Ghali also said he presented a detailed report to President Numayri on the diplomatic activity which the Egyptian Government will undertake regarding the Tel Aviv government's decision to annex the Golan Heights -- a decision which contravenes the principles of international law and the Camp David accords and constitutes in itself a new obstacle in the face of permanent and just peace in the Middle East.

Asked whether new developments have taken place that prompted his visit to Sudan, particularly since Egyptian Ambassador Ahmad 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif had delivered a message from President Husni Mubarak to President Numayri just the day before yesterday, Dr Butrus Ghali said that the ambassador conveyed an oral message, while today's message was in writing, and that developments have indeed taken place during the past 2 days -- namely, the decision on the Golan.

Asked about any current activity among the nonaligned states, he said coordination will take place with Sudan regarding the Egyptian activity for two reasons:

1. Because Sudan is considered one of the principal states in the Nonaligned Movement.

2. Because there is a group in the movement that carries special weight -- the African group -- which took nonaligned policy as its common denominator.

He added that the coordination between Egyptian and Sudanese diplomacy aims at bolstering the movement inside the African continent to protect the continent from foreign interventions and to prevent the cold war from affecting it.

Asked whether Egypt will extend aid to Chad, Dr Ghali said that Egypt's aid will be extended in coordination with the Sudanese Government and that any Egyptian diplomatic move on Chad will be made in full cooperation with the Sudanese Government because there is an identity in views and interests between Sudan and Egypt.

OFFICIALS CITE TALKS, AGREEMENTS WITH PRC

$57 Million Loan

JN171209 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1045 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Dec (SUNA) -- 'Umar Abu Samrah, deputy chief of the economic and social affairs department in the Sudanese Socialist Union and head of the Sudanese side in the Sudanese-PRC talks, announced that the economic agreement signed with PRC includes articles of great importance for the PRC's implementation of developing projects in Sudan.

He added that the agreement stipulates that the Government of China will offer Sudan an interest free loan of $57 million to be paid after 10 years. His excellency also added that the agreement stipulates that the PRC will increase this loan if the cost of expenditures in the four projects exceeds the amount of the loan.

Scholarship Agreement

JN171111 Khartoum SUNA in English 1035 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Dec (SUNA) -- Peoples Republic of China agreed to offer Sudan twenty scholarships annually in science, drama, music, cinema and fine arts fields.

The director of Asia department in Foreign Ministry 'Abd al-Mun'im Mustafa said an agreement in this concern was signed between both Sudanese and Chinese sides in Beijing during the visit of First Vice President Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil and the accompanying delegation.

The agreement embodied the participation of Chinese teachers in physical education high institution and peoples armed forces facilities would be provided to journalists and mass media staff in both countries, according to the agreement.

Military Talks

JN171203 Khartoum SUNA in English 1100 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Dec (SUNA) -- The Chinese high officials are well aware of the political and military situation in the Middle East and the dangers facing the area, said Deputy Chief of Staff and head of the Military Committee in the Sino-Sudanese negotiations Lt General Abd ar-Rahman Suwar adh-Dhahab.

Suwar adh-Dhahab said this fact had greatly helped making the military talks a success being aimed at the developing of the armed forces and the promotion of relations and the consolidation of co-operation with the Chinese Liberation Army in the field of training and expertise technical expertises.

AS-SAFIR NOTES SAUDI INTELLIGENCE CHIEF'S VISIT

PM081639 Beirut AS-SAFIR in Arabic 4 Dec 81 p 1

[AS-SAFIR report: "Saudi Security Protects Numayri"]

[Text] Khartoum -- Informed Sudanese sources in Khartoum have stated that Saudi Chief of Intelligence Prince Turki ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has been in Sudan for the past 5 days, that he will return home today, and that he is behind the recent security measures around Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri.

The same sources say that Turki has been the man responsible for the security aspect of Numayri's travels abroad and has brought foreign experts into the Sudanese security departments.

Yesterday Numayri failed to attend the Khartoum University celebrations, although it had been announced that he would attend. It was later learned that Numayri had left for Egypt.

The celebrations were attended on his behalf by his Vice President 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil amid stringent security precautions. The sources say that the security forces had expected riots to break out and therefore restricted the attendance to people with official status. Students were not allowed to leave their homes.

WESTERN SAHARA

OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON MOROCCAN CHARGES, OAU ROLE

LD130056 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Dec 81

[Text] Mohammed Saydati, adviser to the SDAR prime minister, said the liberation of Guelta Zemmur by the Saharan fighters is considered a great triumph for the Saharan revolution and a personal defeat for the Moroccan King who previously had promoted several of his army officers in charge of this place.

Speaking to a group of journalists who returned from a tour of Saharan territory, during which they visited the towns of Guelta Zemmur and Bir Enzaran which the invading army was compelled to evacuate on 9 November, Saydati denied Moroccan claims that the fighters used advanced weapons such as SAM-6's. In remarks published in 'AL-JUMURIYAH today, he reaffirmed that King Hasan II intends to use this charge to refuse to begin negotiations as recommended by the OAU. He added that Saharan fighters always show great control and ability to use the ordinary weapons they have to defeat the invaders.

Asked about the present French Government's possible rule in the issue, the Saharan official said: The victory of the Socialist Party in France raised our hopes that it would (?revive the previous) attitude of the government toward the Saharan people. France can play an important role today in restoring peace to the area. We (?hope) the Moroccan Army will not (?continue to use) French weapons.

After noting the need for the OAU to continue to pay attention to the Western Sahara issue, the adviser to the SDAR prime minister affirmed that the basic condition for achieving a settlement lies in the withdrawal of the Moroccan forces from Saharan territory and the provision for holding a free, general and (?organized) referendum.

POLISARIO ACCUSES SPAIN OF UNFRIENDLINESS

NC150638 Paris AFP in English 0615 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Text] Algier, 15 Dec (AFP) -- The Saharan Polisario nationalist guerrillas accused Spain here Monday of an "unfriendly gesture" by spending two top military officers recently to Morocco, whose occupation of former Spanish Western Sahara the guerrillas have been fighting for five years. Polisario called on Spain to "reverse its betrayal" of the Saharan people by recognising them as a nation.

The guerrilla communique said that by sending two officers -- Civil Guard Director-General Gen Jose Aramburu Topete and Intelligence Chief Maj Gil Remache -- who knew Western Sahara well through their service there in the colonial area, Spain had confirmed its "guilty collaboration with the Moroccan enemy."

Polisario charged that Madrid showed hostility "every time our people win a major victory," starting with 1975 when Spain pulled out of the territory and handed it over to Morocco "when we were on the point of attaining national sovereignty."

The communique added that after the Nairobi African summit last September, which called for a self-determination referendum in Western Sahara, a Spanish secret service officer who had served many years in the territory was sent to Rabat with a consignment of blank identity cards for use in such a vote.

ETHIOPIA

SEYCHELLES FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS

EA121750 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1100 GMT 12 Dec 81

[Text] His Excellency Jacques Hodoul, foreign affairs minister of the Republic of Seychelles, arrived in Addis Ababa today to deliver a special message to Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam from His Excellency Albert Rene, president of the Seychelles.

During his stay, the foreign affairs minister will hold talks with senior government officials of socialist Ethiopiaand OAU officials on the recent imperialist coordinated plots against the country.

Cites OAU, Ethiopia Support

AB141101 Paris AFP in French 1002 GMT 14 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Addis Ababa, 14 Dec (AFP) -- The OAU supports the Seychelles appeal for the institution of an international commission of inquiry under the auspices of the OAU to throw more light on the recent 25 November abortive coup, Jacques Hodoul, the Seychelles foreign affairs minister, said in Addis Ababa on Sunday.

Interviewed bv telephone by AFP, Hodoul said he had received OAU sppport during his discussions with the officials of the organization in Addis Ababa. Hodoul explained that the African group at the United Nations had taken steps to ensure the rapid establishment of this commission, adding that he is waiting for the Security Council to set it up at UN headquarters no later than next week. The Ethiopian Government also expressed support for our demand, he emphasized.

An inquiry organized under the auspices of an international organization is necessary because South Africa must not feel that it has been unjustly accused, Hodoul explained.

GREEK COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER ARRIVES 15 DEC

EA151150 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Summary] Karilaos Florakis, secretary general of the Greek Communist Party Central Committee, arrived in Addis Ababa this morning at the start of a working visit to Ethiopia. He was met at the airport by Shimelis Mazengia, Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE] Central Committee member and editor in chief of SERTO ADER, and other officials.

INA REPORTS ON ETHIOPIAN PLAN AGAINST ERITREA

JN151236 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1115 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Dec (INA) -- Eritrean sources have warned that the Ethiopian forces are currently making military preparations and massing troops to invade the liberated Eritrean countryside.

In a statement to the INA Khartoum correspondent, the sources said that two divisions of Ethiopian forces, supported by several tank units, have recently been transported from the western Somali region of Ogaden to the camps near the town of Agordat in the central part of Eritrea. The sources asserted that according to the plan, the Ethiopian attack will start from different axes with the aim of reaching the northern and northeastern heights where the Eritrean forces are fortified. The sources doubt that the Ethiopian forces are capable of achieving a military victory in those areas because of the mountainous terrain and the presence of 100,000 Eritrean soldiers in the area.

ERITREA LEADER ON SUDAN TIES, MILITARY SITUATION

PM161015 Rabat AL-'ALAM in Arabic 1 Dec 81 p 4

["Exclusive" interview with Eritrean leader 'Uthman Salih Sabi -- place, date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Some news agencies have reported that relations between the Eritrean revolution and the Sudanese Government have deteriorated and that [Eritrean] offices have been closed in the wake of the Sudanese-Ethiopian rapprochement. How true are these reports?

Answer: Our relations with Sudan are eternal and are not governed by diplomatic courtesies which sometimes necessitate measures not in harmony with the interests of the Eritrean revolution. Sudan hosts half a million Eritrean refugees and a lot of food finds its way from Sudan to Eritrea, which is suffering from a food shortage as a result of the war. Despite its economic and supply difficulties, Sudan does not object to this. We appreciate all this and we are grateful for it. True, the Sudanese Government recently adopted some unsuitable measures toward the Eritrean revolution (last August, to be specific). It closed the offices of Eritrean organizations and restricted their freedom of movement without completely banning them. However, this did not happen as a result Sudanese-Ethiopian rapprochement, but rather as a result of Eritrean mistakes causing clashes between two organizations. As far as we know, Sudanese-Ethiopian relations are passing through a crisis. As long as Ethiopia is a Soviet puppet, nobody seriously expects a real improvement in Sudanese-Ethiopian relations.

Question: What about the military situation?

Answer: The military situation is generally good. There are some negative aspects, of course, resulting from differences such as the abandonment of certain positions, including border positions. Nevertheless, the Eritrean revolution is still in control of rural areas and is preventing the Ethiopian forces from moving freely on the main transport routes, despite their military superiority and their use of most sophisticated weapons, including Soviet-made M-16 armored helicopters. Furthermore, the continuation of the Eritrean war is exhausting Ethiopia's limited resources and continuously exposing its people to famine, as the Ethiopian Government itself is saying, and putting a halt to its development plans. This is why we see Ethiopia trying through various mediators to settle the Eritrean question peacefully, but in some way short of granting full independence. The Eritreans reject this and are calling for self-determination and for a free referendum under international supervision. We are sure that this will result in independence.

The battles which raged in the Baraka area early this month provide proof of the Ethiopian failure. Six Ethiopian battalions, three of them mechanized, had to withdraw from the area of Carcabat to the town of Agordat after suffering heavy losses of more than 1,000. The war in Eritrea is still in progress on a large scale, despite the media blackout.

KENYA

POLICE SEEK KENYA CONNECTION IN SEYCHELLES COUP

AB091054 Paris AFP in English 1003 GMT 9 Dec 81

[Text] Nairobi, Dec 9 (AFP) -- Kenyan police are looking for a possible Kenyan connection in last month's bungled coup attempt in Seychelles, the island republic in the Indian Ocean off Kenya, according to reliable sources here.

Seychelles President France Albert Rene said at a press conference yesterday that James Mancham, the man he overthrew in June 1977, was to have flown back to Victoria from Kenya if the coup had worked. He made it clear that he was not accusing Kenya of being implicated in the coup, but he asked the Nairobi authorities to open an investigation.

A director of Sunbird Charters Ltd, the Kenyan air charter group named by Mr Rene, told AFP yesterday that his company had filed a flight plan for the Seychelles for the Friday after the bungled coup at the request of five American tourists who booked an aircraft by telephone. Sunbird withdrew an earlier statement that the aircraft had been chartered by a European businessman resident in Kenya. The company cancelled the flight after news of the attempted coup.

VICE PRESIDENT TALKS WITH FRENCH DELEGATION

EA161324 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Text] The vice president and minister for finance, Mr Mwai Kibaki, this morning also held discussions with the visiting French minister for cooperation and development, Mr Jean-Pierre Cot.

The talks centered on matters of mutual interest between Kenya and France. Mr Kibaki was accompanied by Mr Kamwithi Munyi, Mr Mule and other Treasury officials. The French minister was accompanied by the French Ambassador to Kenya, Mr Roger Duzer, the chief assistant to the minister, Mr (Vigual), and other top French Government officials.

The top-level French delegation was expected to leave for Maputo, Mozambique, later in the morning.

Meanwhile, the visiting French minister has disclosed in Nairobi, that the French Government is preparing a major program to help in Chad's reconstruction. Addressing a press conference last night, Mr Cot praised His Excellency President Daniel Arap Moi for his positive contribution to the establishment of peace in Chad, especially through the establishment of deployment of an OAU peacekeeping force. He gave assurances that France will not interfere in the internal affairs of African countries and also called on the superpowers to lay their hands off Africa.

The French minister stressed that Africans should be left alone to take charge of their security. He said France will continue to step up aid to African states to help develop their economy.

Speaking on South Africa, Mr Cot said France supports free Africa in its stand against racism and will work with the OAU in its endeavor to bring complete independence for Namibia and the oppressed African majority in South Africa itself.

SOMALIA

SOMALIA DENOUNCES ISRAELI GOLAN DECISION

NC180927 Paris AFP in English 0921 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Mogadishu, 17 Dec (AFP) -- Somalia today strongly condemned Israel's decision this week to annex the Golan Heights, captured from Syria in the 1967 Middle East War.

A Foreign Ministry statement issued here today termed the annexation "a flagrant violation" of international law and the United Nations Charter.

Somalia, a member of the Arab League, has always regarded the Golan Heights as an integral part of Syria and has repeatedly demanded Israel's total withdrawal from occupied Arab lands, including Jerusalem.

MINISTRY CONDEMNS LIBYAN-ETHIOPIAN TALKS

EA171739 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] An official statement released today by the Somali Foreign Ministry strongly condemns the recent talks in Addis Ababa between the Libyan and Abyssinian administrations following the visit to Abyssinia by 'Abd as-Salam Jallud.

The official statement of the Somali Democratic Republic Foreign Ministry said that the talks between Mengistu and Jallud in Addis Ababa were a followup to the recent unholy alliance forged between Ethiopia, Libya and the PDRY in Aden at the end of (?August) 1981.

The talks between Mengistu and Jallud were to implement the resolutions of that Aden meeting, which aimed at creating instability in the countries of this region and at threatening or toppling their governments so as to establish puppet governments for other foreign forces.

The statement goes on to say that such an attempt will only enhance the expansionist policies of a superpower which aims at not only controlling the Horn of Africa region but also the oil routes in the Indian Ocean region.

The Mengistu and Jallud talks are also aimed at waging unprovoked aggression against the countries in the Horn of Africa region, and particularly the Somali Democratic Republic, the official statement of the Somali Foreign Ministry said.

The Somali Democratic Republic Government strongly condemns such unholy alliances and states that the general masses of the Somali Democratic Republic are prepared and vigilant against any such wicked attempt to undermine their government.

The Somali Democratic Republic calls on the peace-loving nations of the world to check these ugly policies of Ethiopia and Libya based on destruction, [words indistinct] inhumane acts, colonialism and oppression.

The Somali Government calls upon the world at large to strongly condemn the Libyan-Ethiopian-PDRY unholy alliance, which serves the interests not of the general masses of those countries but of other forces which do not have the interests of this region at heart but aim at directly or indirectly controlling the states in this region.

PRESIDENT WILLING TO HOLD TALKS WITH ETHIOPIA

EA171738 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Speaking on the situation in the Horn of Africa, Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] President Challe Muhammad Siad Barre said that in many gatherings and internationaal forums the SDR Government has stated its clear position that it is willing to hold direct talks with the Abyssinian administration in order to find a meaningful solution to the crisis in the region. He said the SDR Government once again declared that it is ready to hold talks with the Abyssinian administration on the issue. This will be in the interests of the people living in the region, Challe Siad concluded.

UGANDA

OBOTE SAYS 1980 ELECTIONS WERE FREE, FAIR

EA142254 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 14 Dec 81

[Text] President Milton Obote has emphasized that the 1980 elections were free and fair. He added that anyone who thinks that the elections in 1980 should be scrapped is expressing a vote of no confidence in the Uganda Electoral Commission, the commonwealth observer team. [sentence as heard] He said above all such a person is grossly underestimating the intelligence of voters of Uganda.

President Obote received the members and officials of the Electoral Commission at his office at parliamentary buildings in Kampala today. He commended them for the good work they have done to enable Uganda to have a firm platform for reconstruction. He further thanked them for the dedication they showed in carrying out their duties which they did without fear or favor. He pointed out that theirs was not an easy task to accomplish within the period given to them. But that they managed to do so punctually was highly commendable.

He went on to say that the Electoral Commission is one of the bodies specificially mentioned and provided for in the Uganda Constitution and their job is fundamental to the manner in which the administration of Uganda is carried out. The president stressed that those who would like to use the gun instead of the votes to govern the country have no place in the provisions of the Constitution or the laws of Uganda.

On the commonwealth observer team, Dr Obote expressed gratitude to the countries which provided the team. He said that their presence in Uganda made it possible for other countries to appreciate the fact that the people of Uganda had definitely been liberated and had voted. He pointed out that the team was composed of competent persons from nine different countries. Therefore, persons who expressed lack of confidence in them should be made to understand that they are damaging the image of the people of Uganda as a whole. He said the governments of these countries had accepted the team's report.

Dr Obote went on to emphasize that the present government receives support from all parts of the country. He said this was so because people voted with the knowledge that they would be represented and all government programs would be taken for debate. He added that despite the fact that some individuals were not elected in certain constituencies, the UPC [Uganda People's Congress] government is a national government. It will, therefore, serve every area of Uganda irrespective of votes cast and without any discrimination.

On the reconstruction of the economy, the president said that the government has taken on a program of economic recovery. In this program the people of Uganda have been given the opportunity to better their positions. The role of the government has basically been to five guidelines and not to control production. He said production rests on the stability of the country.

At this point, he observed that there is much stability in the largest area of Uganda, despite the few criminal activities in the districts of Mukono, Mpigi and Luwero. The government condemns the people engaged in these activities which made the government divert resources from reconstruction to security.

He told the members of the commission that there are things he had to do after the elections they had supervised. He said these included releasing Binaisa and the government removed the curfew and roadblocks, returned the army into barracks, released 300 of Amin's henchmen from Luzira prison and announced its intention to gradually release people from prison who had committed no crime. [sentence as heard] These positive measures were unfortunately interrupted by attacks which started on 6 February, 1981 on military installations, police stations and Luzira.

He stressed that the people involved in those lawless activities cannot obviously be fighting for freedom or democracy. He wondered how Yusufu Lule and Godfrey Binaisa would opt to sit with people like Mondo, Ali Moses and Ali Fadhul [Amin officials] -- who were killing Ugandans here to say they were forming a resistance movement to fight against the government. Dr Obote, however, reiterated that with the support that they receive during the elections, the government was resolutely determined to fight those lawless activities.

The chairman of the Electoral Commission, Mr (Apikira) read a report to the president. In the report, the chairman expressed the commission's congratulations to the president on his being the first president of the Republic of Uganda after the 1980 elections. The chairman said the report which has been long-awaited was now out in circulation. Further, the chairman sought permission of his excellency the president to circulate and sell the report in 12,000 copies. He said the report was to enable the public to know that the elections were free and fair. He said the arrangements for elections were not an easy task. He however said because all people from all walks of life played their respective parts in the good spirit of cooperation, the elections were a success.

Present at the meeting were the minister of internal affairs, Dr Kirunda; of rehabilitation, Dr Masette-Kuuya and of public service and Cabinet affairs, Mr Okwenje.

AFP: SOLDIERS ATTACK, KILL SSEMUTO CIVILIANS

AB091649 Paris AFP in English 1519 GMT 9 Dec 81

[Text] Ssemuto, Uganda, 9 Dec (AFP) -- Ugandan troops killed seven more civilians yesterday near Ssemuto, a trading centre 30 miles (48 kilometres) north of Kampala, local residents said today.

The body of one young man still lay on the road outside the town, and inhabitants said that six others had been killed by soldiers during a late night anti-guerrilla operation.

More than 60 civilians have now been killed in the Ssemuto area by soldiers since an army lorry was blown up by a landmine on November 28.

Residents of Namirembe, a small village 8 miles (13 kilometres) north of Ssemuto, confirmed today that soldiers had slashed more than 20 civilians to death during a sweep through the area in December.

Kampala sources indicated that the soldiers were attacked by anti-government forces the same night and at least five of them were killed. The soldiers came in the morning before we went to the fields one Namibrembe villager told journalists. They had their knives in their hands and they cut everyone they saw.

A 30-year-old farmer who lay in his hut with deep knife wounds in his head, neck and arms stated that he had been slashed by soldiers then left outside his house. I fell on the ground and they thought I was dead, he said, then they went away.

Although villagers in the area said tht the soldiers returned to their camp today all of them indicated that they would continue to sleep in their fields for safety. Be careful on this road, an old farmer warned newsmen. There is much trouble here.

GABON

UDEAC MEETING OPENS IN LIBREVILLE; BONGO SPEAKS

AB172117 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Excerpts] This morning at the 12 March International Conference Hall, the 17th summit conference of the Customs and Economic Union of Central Afria [UDEAC] began. This summit is unique since the creation of UDEAC because this is the first time that countries not belonging to the union have attended such a meeting. One can say that is a great honor for our country. The participation of these countries as observers is a mark of the desire to create a larger economic community in Central Africa. The admission of countries like Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe and Zaire into the UDEAC and the possible readmission of Chad into the union will be discussed during the Libreville meeting.

This morning the president of the republic, His Excellency El-Hadj Omar Bongo, in his capacity as current chairman of the UDEAC, was given the honor of delivering the opening speech, a speech very rich with teachings. Let us listen to the president of the republic.

[Begin recording] The Gabonese Republic is very happy today to host the 17th UDEAC summit. It is all the more happy because it enables the heads of state and governments of our subregion to meet for the first time in one of our capitals. Clearly, the event is very important and I think future generations will determine its exact significance. Therefore, all the Gabonese people would like to heartily thank our illustrious guests attending this summit. Their presence among us is an eloquent manifestation of their desire and their determination to ensure as rapidly as possible the harmonious development of economies of our countries to moderate the conditions of living and employment of all our people.

Fellow presidents and dear brothers, your excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, since we all agreed on the need to create a new world economic order, the various specialized organizations of the United Nations and the OAU and a few interstate and nongovernmental organizations have been making continuous efforts to create favorable conditions for the growth and development of new countries. Africa, our dear Africa, unanimously accepts that it is sitting on a pile of gold, a pile of which the founding fathers of our pan-African organization spoke with bitterness. Africa, our dear Africa, is still watching impotently but not resignedly the continuing deterioration of trade terms at the expense of our purchasing power, that is to say, of our raw materials, the pricing and selling of which takes place solely outside our continent. In the face of this situation which is dramatic and alarming and through the initiative of its secretary general whose lucidity, courage and dynamism, I will praise here, the OAU organized and held its first economic summit in Lagos from 21-29 April 1980. During that summit, two main points were discussed: the need to strive toward unity in the future and the need to guide our countries in economic development.

Fellow presidents and dear brothers, your excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, while recalling briefly the main points in the Lagos plan of action, I would like to stress our responsibility which is to put into practice the pertinent recommendations of this great economic conference of the OAU. It is necessary for us therefore to show resolutely, from now on, our desire and our determination to lay the foundation for a great economic body in our subregion. In this perspective, the UDEAC could, in cooperation with other subregional organizations and states not belonging to the already existing organizations, take the necessary steps toward the creation of this economic community of Central Africa. That is why I judged to be highly desirable and extremely important the participation at this present meeting of our colleagues and brothers who are guiding the destinies of certain countries in the subregion which are not members of our organization. The discussions which I hope will take place during this meeting could lead to making a decision capable of leading to a deep examination of the need for creating an economic community of central African states. [end recording]

UPPER VOLTA

ZERBO 10 DEC INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY ADDRESS

AB111322 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2003 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Address to the nation by Upper Voltan head of state Col Saye Zerbo on the eve of his country's independence anniversary on 10 December -- live]

[Excerpts] Fellow citizens, the Upper Voltan people tomorrow will celebrate the 21st anniversary of their national day -- the day which marked their accession to international sovereignty. On this happy occasion, I am pleased to wish all of you a joyous celebration and to take this opportunity to examine with you some of our preoccupations.

On achieving national independence, Upper Volta freely presented to the world its numerous virtues and moral values and received in return contributions from all horizons. To achieve total independence and sovereignty, however, Upper Volta must be able to acquire the necessary economic, social and cultural means. For us, this prospect constitutes a gigantic task which will require the constant efforts of many generations because we are still far from achieving our minimum needs. This is why, on this anniversary of our national day, I wish to urge all our citizens to engage in a deep meditation of our country's development problems.

Of course, we will have to increase salaries but the increases will be very insufficient and in conformity with our possibilities because of the pernicious effects of inflation, which is a recurrent phenomenon the end of which no one can now predict.

We must understand that the main thing for us is to avoid financial strangulation to save our life, that is, our right to existence and progress. We are bound to admit that the financial organizations lend only to the rich and hardly to the poor. Far from concerning only Upper Volta, this sad picture also presents itself to all the developing countries, some of which are facing situations more difficult that ours. This is not a consolation but a mere observation which will enable us to determine our place on the international scene. In view of this situation which makes it impossible for us to provide all our needs, it is obvious that we must accept the idea of solidarity and social justice.

It is, therefore, high time those whose material conditions can be described as relatively satisfactory -- I mean a fraction of our urban populations -- should stop making demands for themselves alone. A simple attitude of responsibility and of human solidarity should incite these people to think about the precarious and even atrocious conditions of the immense legions of our peasants -- our brothers and sisters condemned to the most difficult tasks without any compensation and sometimes even without good drinking water. I was acquainted with the real problems of this immense majority in our rural areas during my tour of several regions of our country. Day and night, the main preoccupation of our people is to overcome thirst, famine, disease and ignorance. These problems are not new to us in Upper Volta. Each of us has experienced them in his village, administrative district or subprefecture and this sad reality explains the choice of the priorities mentioned in my policy statement of 1 May 1981. On this anniversary of our national day -- which is common to all the sons and daughters of this country -- I wish to appeal to the conscience of each and everyone of you.

In my policy statement of 1 May 1981, I said the rural sector can and should become the lever of our development and the starting point of our economic takeoff and I made self-sufficiency in food our main priority. To give you an idea of the execution of the first tasks undertaken, I will give you a short report about certain sectors such as grains, water supply, stock breeding, agriculture and the organization of the rural areas.

The actions taken for food supply concerned the regular supply of grains to our people. About 34,000 tons of grains were distributed throughout the national territory including 25,000 tons for the Sahelian districts and the northern and north-central regions which suffer most from food shortage. We have continued with our decentralization program to bring the food supply board nearer to the rural world. We also have taken actions aimed at improving the management of the board.

Concerning the water supply sector, our efforts centered on the supply of water to the rural and urban populations. A program of construction of wells and boreholes in the rural areas has been established to attain our first objective of 2,000 water supply points.

As far as stockbreeding and meat production are concerned, our efforts centered on animal health programs and the development of our meat production industry. Concerning animal health, it should be noted that the parasitological section of the national veterinary laboratory is functional and should enable us to follow the animal health situation in the various regions of the country. The stockbreeding development operations based on collective ranches have given satisfactory results and will be continued.

The country's total grain production during the last agricultural season amounted to about 1 million tons, leaving a deficit of about 94,000 tons. This deficit concerns mainly the northern, north-central, eastern and central regions. The 1981-82 agricultural campaign promises a production estimated at more than 1 million tons, which is a slight improvement on the 1980-81 campaign. This sector is greatly influenced by climatic hazards.

As I have often said, you must not expect the state to do everything for you. This is why I once again urge all our fellow citizens to transcend all fruitless passions and selfishness so that we can all move forward shoulder to shoulder. I must also report that 658 of our villages with a total population of 570,770 inhabitants possess primary health centers manned by 840 health officers and 575 village midwives. This is an encouraging sign which indicates, if need be, that we are on the right path. In the long run, all personnel in charge of the health of our populations will be mainly indigenous. This is why the Military Committee of Redress for National Progress, which is aware of its responsibilities, has chosen to make sacrifices now in order to ensure an increasingly brighter future for the country. By creating the Ouagadougou advanced school of science and medicine this year, we are aware of the immense difficulties which the running of such a school entails. However, if we want to have our own doctors, pharmacists, dentists and other specialists to meet our national needs, this was the only choice we could make and we made it.

Another sector is that of staff training and particularly the training of high-level cadres. Our political will to equip Upper Volta with adequate training institutions and to lay the foundations of a scientific research program geared toward development compels us to further develop and equip our existing establishments. In fact, we must be able to receive most of our high school certificate holders and offer them better adapted educational systems. Of our 750 new high school certificate holders, the University of Ouagadougou absorbed 670, that is, 90 percent of the number. If we take into account students coming from Lome, Niamey and Abidjan, the University of Ouagadougou will have about 3,000 students at the resumption of classes for the 1981-82 academic year. The University of Ouagadougou, together with all the subsidiary structures, represents a total investment of about 7 billion CFA francs.

We don't want to adopt an attitude of self-satisfaction but objectivity compels us to admit that the political will demonstrated by our policy statement has been rapidly put into concrete form through tangible acts. The efforts made by the military committee have demonstrated Upper Volta's firm determination to take charge of its own destiny and to arouse the interest of the financial institutions. Upper Volta must first of all rely on itself. This is because a sustained national effort will enable us to rapidly achieve independence in the key development sectors of scientific research and education.

Let's not forget that Upper Volta remains open to the world. It is an integral part of Africa and this represents a number of reciprocal obligations to which we intend to devote every attention. In this connection, our country will fully participate in the North-South solidarity and contribute more effectively to the new interdependence of our time [words indistinct].

Meanwhile, we are anxious to salute the heroic struggle of SWAPO which will soon be crowned with victory. This is because nothing can stop a people fighting for freedom. We assure Angola of our moral support in the face of South Africa's designs. We are infinitely grateful to the numerous friendly countries and great organizations which have loyally helped us and continue to do so with steadfastness, generosity and in a friendly spirit. Our difficulties are so considerable that this support should not only be maintained but considerably increased.

The new international economic order advocated by the UN General Assembly in 1975, the numerous sessions of the UN conference on trade, economy and development, the North-South dialogue, the Arab-African solidarity program, the recent Paris conference of the less advanced countries, the Cancun summit in Mexico and the development decades sponsored by the United Nations are all indications that things cannot continue to go on at the present pace. We derive great moral satisfaction from the efforts made in Cancun by the French president with a view to leading his colleagues of the other industrialized countries to a more equitable, humane and realistic attitude in their own interest and that of international solidarity. Faced as we are with the most inextricable difficulties, we hope the French president's voice and example will be heard and followed.

ROK'S NO TAE-U RECEIVED BY ZERBO, TALKS TO PRESS

AB042140 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 4 Dec 81

[Text] The visiting South Korean minister of state of foreign affairs, who arrived in Ouagadougou yesterday, was received in audience this afternoon by the head of state, Col Saye Zerbo. Mr No Tae-u was accompanied by several other South Korean personalities, including His Excellency U Mun-ki, Korean ambassador to our country. The South Korean delegation was introduced to the head of state by Lt Col Charles Bambara, minister of post and telecommunications deputizing for the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation. After the audience, Minister No Tae-u told Emmanuel Ildo that he had come to extend an invitation to President Saye Zerbo to make an official visit to South Korea. The South Korean minister also took the opportunity to discuss bilateral cooperation with the head of state.

[Begin recording in Korean fading into French translation] [No Tae-u] We have discussed the bilateral relations between the ROK and the Republic of Upper Volta, particularly our relations of friendship and cooperation, with which we are satisfied. Also, we pledged to strengthen these relations of friendship and cooperation in the coming years. We believe that Upper Volta will achieve great successes under the enlightened leadership of His Excellency Col Saye Zerbo.

[Question] Excellency, with regard to the relations between Upper Volta and your country, to what sectors are you planning to address your attention in the future?

[Answer] I have learned a lot of things during my visit even though it has been very short. I have realized that there are several sectors of cooperation, particularly technical cooperation. We also discussed financial cooperation. As you are aware, we in Korea have also experienced hardships and we are willing to share our experience. We will make efforts to promote our economic cooperation.

[Question] What conclusions can you draw from talks with some Upper Voltan Cabinet members?

[Answer] First of all, I am very happy to have had the opportunity of making this official visit to the Republic of Upper Volta, a country developing itself. I have seen the efforts which the government and people are making for national progress. It is gratifying to realize that our bilateral relations are being further strengthened every year. We are planning to contribute our share to the efforts being made by the Upper Voltan Government and people. I also extend a cordial invitation to His Excellency President Saye Zerbo to come to the ROK on an official visit. Such a visit will make it possible to strengthen our relations of friendship and cooperation. [end recording]

Presents Machines

AB042221 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 4 Dec 81

[Summary] The South Korean Government donated 14 agricultural machines to our country. The presentation ceremony took place in Ouagadougou today. Korean Minister of State for Foreign Affairs No Tae-u, who presented the 14 machines to Rural Development Minister Andre Rock Compaore, said this was a modest contribution to the development of Upper Volta.

Departs 5 Dec

AB060857 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 6 Dec 81

[Text] ROK Minister of State for Foreign Affairs No Tae-u left Ouagadougou yesterday after a 48-hour visit to our country. On his departure, he was seen off by the minister of posts and telecommunications, Lt Col Charles Bambara, who was acting for the minister for foreign affairs. Also at the airport were the ROK ambassador to our country, U Mun-ki, and a delegation of the Upper Voltan Women's Federation, led by its president, Mrs Lucie Kabore.

ANGOLA

GOVERNMENT DENIES WILLINGNESS TO TALK WITH UNITA

LD171836 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese 1730 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Paris, 17 Dec (ANGOP) -- Luis de Almeida, Angolan ambassador in France, denied in Paris last Wednesday Lisbon reports saying that the Angolan Government is willing to hold talks with the UNITA puppet group.

A press release from the Angolan Embassy says: "The Government of the People's Republic of Angola most categorically denies AP reports from Lisbon, saying that the Angolan Government is ready to hold talks with UNITA, a group in the pay of Pretoria."

PRESIDENT DISMISSES DEPUTY INTERIOR MINISTER

EA171528 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] According to a presidential decree issued yesterday, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos has dismissed Comrade Mariano Puku from the post of deputy interior minister. He is a member of the Central Committee. In another decree, the president appointed him provincial commissioner for Huila.

Another presidential decree published yesterday dismissed Comrade Miguel Luis Neto (Ivadi), also a Central Committee member, from the post of Huila provincial commissioner.

PORTUGUESE PRAISED FOR HELP DURING REFINERY FIRE

AB171137 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese 1050 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Luanda, 17 Dec (ANGOP) -- The 25 April Association recently sent a message to the Petrangol Trade Union Committee, extolling the spirit of sacrifice of the Petrangol workers, the fire brigade and all those who fought the fierce fire caused by a criminal act committed by the racist South Africans.

In the message, the 25 April Association expresses its satisfaction with the manner in which the Portuguese workers in Petrangol joined the gigantic collective effort and described it as a practical indication of concrete and genuine friendship and solidarity between the Portuguese and Angolan workers.

The 25 April Association was also optimistic that Petrangol will be able to operate fully in the service of the Angolan people.

AFP DESCRIBES SWAPO-RUN REFUGEE CAMP

AB131201 Paris AFP in English 1011 GMT 13 Dec 81

[By Marie Joannidis]

[Text] Calulo, Angola, 13 Dec (AFP) -- Refugees fleeing last month's renewed incursion of South African troops into southern Angola are the latest arrivals in South-West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) centres sited not far from the combat zone.

With the aid of SWAPO, the nationalist group fighting to free Namibia from South African rule, they travelled some 1,400 kilometres (850 miles) to reach the most important of the refugee camps in Angola, the Namibian health and education centre at Calulo, 300 kilometres (190 miles) southwest of Luanda in Cuanza Sul Province.

The centre, located in the middle of a coffee plantation, currently houses more than 36,000 people, including 10,000 children. The latest arrivals talked of renewed South African bombing attacks during Operation Daisy, Pretoria's latest offensive against SWAPO guerrilla bases.

Helen, 21, who is pregnant, said she fled her northern Namibian village of Endama last July, after it was destroyed by the South Africans because the inhabitants were suspected of sheltering SWAPO guerrillas. Her husband was arrested and she had received no word of him since. Helen said the South African bombing attacks continued throughout her flight across the border to the southern Angolan town of Lubango.

Goodson Haffeni said he was a school teacher who had left the Namibian port of Walvis Bay in September because he had been sacked after being frequently arrested and held for interrogation, sometimes for up to a month, when there was a swoop by the authorities on suspected SWAPO members. Mr Haffeni said he had been forced to hide in the bush when South African aircraft attacked private houses owned by Angolans in the town where he had taken refuge.

In Calulo most of the 10,000 children are orphans, or separated from their parents during the long march north. They all live separately from the adults, under tents provided by international humanitarian organisations, including UNICEF and the UNHCR (U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees).

Sweden is the only Western country to supply direct aid at governmental level, and two of the four doctors -- from Sweden and Finland -- were sent by the Swedish organisation Africa groups recruitment. The other two doctors are East German. The most common diseases in the camp are tuberculosis -- a scourge in Namibia, where preventative methods are unknown, according to Susan Beckman, the Swedish doctor who has been serving at the post since last June -- as well as diarrhea and malaria.

The Calulo centre was set up in 1979 after the attack by South African troops on the refugee camp at Kassinga, 250 kilometers (155 miles) north of the border between Angola and Namibia. Determined to avoid a repetition, SWAPO moved refugees as far from the combat zone as possible, and stressed that the Calulo camp was staffed only by civilians and run by international organisations. The only armed men at the camp were guards who also protected the water pump against attack, SWAPO officials said.

The 7,000 children of school age are taught in English, with French in some classes as well, by 122 teachers, some of whom benefit from grants from France or the United States. The centre library contains many technical and education books along with the writings of Lenin, whose portrait along with those of late Angolan President Agostinho Neto and Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, adorn the administrative offices. The South African English-language press is also available to show what the enemy writes and thinks. But SWAPO, which runs transport services, food distribution and training, wants international aid to be increased for the refugees. The current cost of the camp amounts to some two million dollars a month or some 50 dollars for each person living there.

SOUTH AFRICA

DEFENSE MINISTER ON STRUGGLE AGAINST SWAPO

LD171820 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] The South African minister of defense, General Magnus Malan, says South Africa and South-West Africa can continue indefinitely with the struggle against SWAPO but a solution will be found on a political and not a military level. General Malan said on his return from a visit to the operational area that the people of South-West Africa of all races realize that the struggle was in effect their own and with this new spirit it was conceivable that South-West Africa would be able to continue the fight on its own.